

## Iraq again bombs Tehran

# Many die as Iranian missiles hit Baghdad



### Road accident

NAIROBI, (Reuter): At least 25 people died in western Kenya yesterday in a collision involving three mini-buses, the KNA said.

### Negotiators

ISLAMABAD, (UPI): Pakistani negotiators flew to Geneva yesterday for talks with Afghan officials on a Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan, confronted by a two-week deadline set by Moscow.

### Army deployment

DHAKA, (Reuter): The Bangladeshi Army began deploying at polling stations yesterday to prevent violence by anti-government protesters opposed to this week's parliamentary elections. (See Page 2)

### Pilotless aircraft

NEW DELHI, (Kuna): The Indian Air Force will shortly add pilotless target aircraft (PFTA) to its combat fleets, official sources announced here.

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BAGHDAD, Feb 29, (Agencies): Two Iranian missiles exploded in residential districts of Baghdad before dawn today, killing or wounding "many civilians," the official radio reported.

Twelve hours later, after Iraq warned that Iran "will pay a high price," Iran's official media reported Iraqi warplanes twice bombed residential districts of Tehran and hit a hospital, killing and wounding several civilians.

Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency quoted a Revolutionary Guards communique as saying the missiles were aimed at the headquarters of Iraq's state-run television and radio network and "to military targets" in Baghdad.

Iraq said 16 people were killed and dozens wounded in the latest raid.

But Iraq said "Iraq's gigantic missile force fired three missiles at Tehran and our missiles will continue hitting Tehran until we demolish it over the heads of its rulers," a high command statement said.

The Turkish Anatolia news agency reported that one bomb exploded 300 yards (metres) from a downtown hotel where Turkish State Minister Yusuf Ozal is staying with an official delegation led by Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, his brother.

### Links

There were no reports of casualties among the 35-strong Turkish group in Tehran on a three-day visit to improve political and economic links with neighbouring Iran.

The Iraqis frequently do that for security reasons. The Scuds can carry warheads of up to 900 pounds (1,980 kilograms) of high explosive, but are not designed for pinpoint accuracy to hit targets such as specific buildings.

The missile strikes heightened fears that the two Gulf war foes are locked in a fresh round of tit-for-tat attacks in the so-called "war of the cities" that began in

Guards units fired three long-range surface-to-surface missiles in retaliation for Iraqi air raids on Tehran and other towns to which 28 civilians were killed and scores wounded.

It was the third day of tit-for-tat attacks by the two Gulf war belligerents on population and industrial centres that began Saturday when the Iraqi Air Force bombed Tehran for the first time since January last year.

Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency quoted a Revolutionary Guards communique as saying the missiles were aimed at the headquarters of Iraq's state-run television and radio network and "to military targets" in Baghdad.

### Exploded

But Baghdad Radio said only two missiles exploded in the city, which has a population of five million, at 2.45 am and 3.05 am.

The radio, quoting a military communique, said: "Many Iraqis were killed, among them women, children and old people. Many more were wounded and many houses were destroyed."

Ambulances were seen racing through the city, their sirens wailing, soon after the blasts.

The explosions thundered across the city on the banks of the River Tigris, sending people shaken from their beds into the street in panic, witnesses said.

The radio did not identify the districts hit by the missiles, believed to be Soviet-made Scud-B weapons.

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## UN chief urges US not to close PLO office

UNITED NATIONS, Feb 29, (AP): Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, opening an emergency session of the General Assembly today urged the United States not to close the UN mission of the PLO and to respect the United Nations.

"This question has immediate and profound importance for the United Nations," he said as the 159-member assembly reconvened a three-day session to condemn the US plan to close the PLO mission under a new anti-terrorist law.

"The PLO is an invitee of the United Nations and the United States is obliged by its UN headquarters agreement to permit accredited PLO personnel to enter and remain in the US and carry out their official functions," the UN chief said.

Perez de Cuellar said he hoped the United States could reconcile its domestic legislation with its international obligations.

### Intends

Both the State Department and the United Nations say the new anti-terrorism law that would close the mission by March 22 violates the 1947 headquarters agreement between the United States and the United Nations. It allows all missions to operate.

Still, the Justice Department reportedly intends to go ahead and order the mission closed, although legal manoeuvring is expected to keep the mission open for as long as a year.

The head of the UN Arab group said yesterday that if the United States insists on closing the legal PLO mission, operating under international treaty, then the General Assembly should vote to leave New York and relocate in Geneva.

## Government will not sell shares

By Mohammed Al Barges

KUWAIT'S Finance Minister Jassim Al Khorafi said yesterday that a decision had been taken to freeze the government's shares portfolios and not to offer them for sale as a measure to provide the stock market with more freedom to become active.

He also said that a number of important suggestions were made by stock market dealers and representatives of companies during a meeting with him yesterday.

### Study

Khorafi said he would study the suggestions with the Public Investment Corporation to implement them.

He said he heard the proposals of stock exchange dealers and directors of investment portfolios on matters relating to the stock market.

Khorafi said his keen interest in improving dealings in the market led him to call for the meeting.

The meeting was also attended by Commerce and Industry Minister Faisal Al Khaled and the director of the stock market.

## Tamil mothers end fast

COLOMBO, Feb 29, (AP): There were conflicting reports today on whether Indian troops in Sri Lanka had scaled down operations against Tamil rebels to persuade two Tamil women to call off their fast for peace.

The two women, Anama David, 38, and Nessama Vadivel, 50, ended their 10-day fast today by taking water mixed with salt and sugar, witnesses said.

The women, who are members of the Tamil Mothers Front, had pledged not to eat until Indian

(Continued on Page 2)

## Indian budget aimed at polls

NEW DELHI, Feb 29, (Reuter): India announced a populist budget today aimed at helping farmers overcome a crippling drought and trying to ensure that the ruling Congress (I) Party wins next year's general elections.

Finance Minister Narayan Dutt Tiwari said in Parliament amidst Congress Party cheers that the budget would reduce interest rates on agricultural credit, cut fertiliser prices and abolish excise duties on pesticides and modern farm machinery. (See Page 2)



An Israeli soldier takes aim at a Palestinian woman throwing a rock, during a demonstration yesterday in the occupied West Bank. (Reuter wirephoto)

### PLO official accuses Tel Aviv of committing massacre

## Israeli troops 'burn' Palestinians alive

TUNIS, Feb 29, (Agencies): A senior PLO official has alleged that Israeli soldiers attempted to burn 14 Palestinians alive in a West Bank village.

Soldiers set fire to a hut with the Palestinians inside in the village of Kadidli, near Nablus, Bassam Abu Sherif, an adviser to Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Yasser Arafat, told Reuters yesterday.

Four of the Palestinians survived and were being treated in a Nablus hospital for severe burns, but the other 10 were unaccounted for, presumed buried alive, he said.

"I have every reason to believe that a massacre has been committed," he said.

Abu Sherif said the Palestinians were packed into the small hut made of metal sheeting when it was set alight, but could not give any further precise details about the alleged incident.

He said only that it took place in the past few days and that Kadidli had been sealed off.

### Incident

He accused Israeli occupation forces of being behind the incident and said troops were allowing no-one to enter or leave the village.

"The Israeli occupation forces are trying to hide this crime by continuing to seal off the village," he said.

He accused Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin of ordering the village's isolation as a cover-up.

Abu Sherif called on the International Committee of the Red Cross and the United Nations to investigate the affair.

Two more Palestinians died from gunshot wounds in Israeli-

occupied territories today.

Troops shot dead an 18-year-old Palestinian during a violent demonstration at Burin, a West Bank village near Nablus and a second Arab, aged 30, died in hospital from gunshot wounds suffered last week, an Army spokesman said.

### Closed

Their deaths raised to 79 the unofficial toll in an 11-week-old Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Politicians in right-wing Likud bloc have called for the territories to be closed to journalists, arguing that demonstrators were playing up to newsmen and television cameras.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir told reporters in northern Israel: "The Israeli Army must check it, the defence establishment must get involved in the matter, and if it becomes clear that it could reduce the damage, I would not rule it out."

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The force shot tear gas and rubber bullets and the crowd continued to riot and attack the force, the officers shot

towards the legs and a local resident was killed from the shooting."

Hospital officials said another Palestinian was wounded in the clash. The Army declared the village a closed military area.

Television cameramen said they saw soldiers firing thousands of rounds of bullets at protesters in the nearby village of Asira Al Qibliyah. They said they saw at least two people wounded by gunfire.

Israel, condemned worldwide for its handling of the unrest, faced fresh criticism after a US television film last week showed soldiers brutally beating two Palestinians with stones.

Four soldiers and a commander arrested after the incident were freed today while a military prosecutor considered what charges to file.

### Attitudes

Rabin told foreign correspondents protesting against military attitudes toward the press that most of Israel's cabinet wanted the occupied areas declared off limits to them.

He said he was one of few to back open coverage even though there were strong feelings in the military against foreign journalists, especially television crews.

The Foreign Press Association asked for a meeting after a series of incidents including a threat by an officer to shoot two photographers who refused to leave an area just closed to outsiders.

Rabin told the delegations there were standing Army instructions against harming reporters and he insisted few countries allowed the press as much freedom of movement in operational areas as Israel did.

### Expense

Expatriates who are found to have AIDS, tuberculosis, leprosy or malaria will be returned to their country at the expense of their employer.

Expatriates to the Capital, Jahra and Hawalli Governorates will have to go to the Sabah Health Centre for their medical examinations and those in the Ahmad Governorate will go to Adan Hospital.

Meanwhile, a Gulf committee has proposed to make the AIDS test as a requirement for employment in Gulf states.

The committee, meeting in Doha co-ordinated its two-day meeting yesterday. It called on Arab Gulf states to form national committees to fight the disease and proposed that national committees include representatives from all ministries and departments.

## Naimy dies

BEIRUT, Feb 29, (AP): US-educated poet and philosopher Mikhail Naimy, considered the last of Lebanon's major literary figures, has died after a short bout of pneumonia, relatives said today.

## DAY BY DAY

THE rule that says that sellers, in most cases, are the losers is correct. When applied to persons who sell their real estate or assets, it shows they are the losers in the long run. This is because money gradually loses some of its purchasing power. Material assets are better and more useful than cash.

This rule may not apply to everything, but it is true in many cases. The government should remember this rule when dealing with its national assets in particular, whether they are land, real estate or horses.

The annual increase in the value of such property is very good especially for those with patience.

Zahid Matar

## Shultz mission hits a snag

AMMAN, Feb 29, (Agencies): US Secretary of State George Shultz flew to occupied Jerusalem today after his mission appeared to have hit a snag with Jordan backing away from the idea of forming a joint delegation with the PLO in negotiations with Israel.

## INTERNATIONAL

**Dhaka opposition threatens massive disobedience campaign**

DHAKA, Feb 29, (Reuters): Bangladeshi opposition leader Begum Khaleda Zia said today she might call a massive civil disobedience campaign after this week's election which is being boycotted by most anti-government parties.

Khaleda, head of the Bangladeshi Nationalist Party, said in an interview she was reluctant to reveal her plans but, asked about a civil disobedience campaign, said "Yes, I think it will start after the third of March."

**Disrupt**

On that date, 21 opposition parties will boycott the parliamentary poll called by President Hossain Mohammad Ershad after he dismissed parliament last December.

The parties have announced a 36-hour general strike from 6 am (0000 GMT) on Wednesday to disrupt the voting but the government moved to lessen its effect by declaring Wednesday a public holiday as well as election day on Thursday.

The announcement followed renewed violence around Dhaka University where students burned vehicles to protest against the killing of three opposition activists on Sunday. Opposition leaders blamed police for the deaths.

**Peace**

In the afternoon, at least 15 bombs exploded in central Dhaka as hundreds of opposition workers tried to stage a protest rally.

People on the street ran for cover as the bombs, apparently thrown from nearby buildings, went off in quick succession.

Several homemade bombs exploded harmlessly in the capital early today, while in Gazipur, 30 km (20 miles) east of Dhaka, district officials said opposition supporters burnt down the offices of the local candidate for the ruling Jatiya Party.

Khaleda and Awami League leader Sheikh Hasina have been

leading a campaign begun last November to force Ershad to resign.

Khaleda said the opposition parties might have to call an all-out strike to force a resolution to their anti-Ershad campaign.

"Burning down polling stations is not part of our plan," she said. "We believe in peace. We do not believe in violence. We want peaceful protest."

The opposition coalition warned that no-one should vote or go to work, and even Dhaka's estimated two million cycle-rickshaws should go off the road.

But Ershad, who said he would deploy the Army to ensure peaceful voting, said on Sunday: "The election will be held on schedule and there's no power on earth which can stop it."

Both Khaleda and Hasina have said they are confident that few people will vote in the poll to elect 275 members to the parliament. Twenty-five people have already been elected unopposed.

**Killed**

Police shot and killed three protesters when thousands of opponents of Ershad rallied yesterday in the capital to demand his resignation, opposition leaders said.

Information Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud denied three demonstrators were killed, saying that one man had died after being run over by a bus.

Police said they fired tear gas and blank shots to disperse thousands of bomb-and-rock-throwing demonstrators and five policemen were injured.

But a spokesman for the Bangladeshi Nationalist Party (BNP), said three party workers were killed and 100 injured by police during the demonstration.

He said police threw splinter bombs and fired at random with automatic weapons when BNP supporters tried to march in favour of a poll boycott.

**Violence continues in Transcaucasia**

MOSCOW, Feb 29, (Reuters): Rioters rampaged through the Azerbaijani city of Sumgait yesterday in further unrest in the Soviet Union's troubled Transcaucasian republics, according to the official Tass news agency.

Tass said today the disturbances were "provoked by a group of hooligans," but did not say whether there was any ethnic aspect to the incidents.

"Rampage and violence followed," the agency said. "Measures have been taken to normalise the situation in the city and safeguard discipline and public order," an investigation was under way.

Sumgait is an industrial centre of some 180,000 people, just

north of the Azerbaijani capital of Baku.

A senior Moscow official said on Baku radio yesterday that two men — both clearly Azerbaijanis — had been killed in disturbances linked to Armenian claims on a region administered as part of Azerbaijan.

Tass made no link between the Sumgait violence and officially reported clashes this month between Azerbaijanis and Armenians over the disputed area, Nagorno-Karabakh.

But there appeared little doubt there was some connection. There is a large Armenian community in Baku, an oil industry centre which for almost a century has been one of the most multi-

national cities in Transcaucasia. Hundreds of thousands of Armenians demonstrated throughout last week in their republic's capital Yerevan in support of demands for the return of Nagorno-Karabakh, transferred to Azerbaijan by the Soviet government in 1923.

The demonstrations were called off on Saturday after envoys from the demonstrators, two leading Armenian literary figures, were received in Moscow by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev who told them he would study their case.

Officials in Nagorno-Karabakh's capital, Stepanakert, said yesterday demonstrations were continuing.

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## KUWAIT ... GULF

War is not in the interest of Gulf foes: information minister

# Kuwait reiterates support for uprising

KUWAIT'S Minister of Information Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad Al Sabah was quoted as saying here yesterday that Kuwait supports the popular uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and expressed hope that the uprising would realise the objectives it is struggling for.

In an interview with Al Sharq newspaper of Beirut, Sheikh Jaber said the Western media, which is originally biased towards Israel, has started dealing positively with the developments of the uprising.

He expressed belief that the uprising was spontaneous and has broken out "as a result of disappointment caused by the regimes and organisations."

He stressed that "the heroic

uprising has so far changed many things and equations."

Sheikh Jaber Al Mubarak denied that the issue of severing relations with Iran had been discussed at the recent summit conference of the Gulf Cooperation Council and said that seeking to bring the Iraq-Iran war to an end necessitates preserving these relations.

He expressed belief that the continuation of the conflict is not in the interest of Iran or Iraq and the only beneficiary is the joint enemy, that is Israel.

The information minister said the GCC summit has assigned the President of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan to embark on good offices efforts with the aim of ending the Iraq-Iran war.

He voiced hope that this would be of positive results and stressed that the official media in Kuwait has not launched any campaign against Iran through the Iranian government-sponsored press is directly attacking Kuwait.

He said, however, that some writers have attacked Iran in Kuwaiti newspapers as a reaction to certain actions by Iran, particularly after the aggressions on the Kuwaiti and Saudi embassies in Tehran.

### Duty

On the food and medical assistance to Lebanon extended by Kuwait, the minister said the assistance was a duty in the light of the suffering of the brothers in Lebanon.

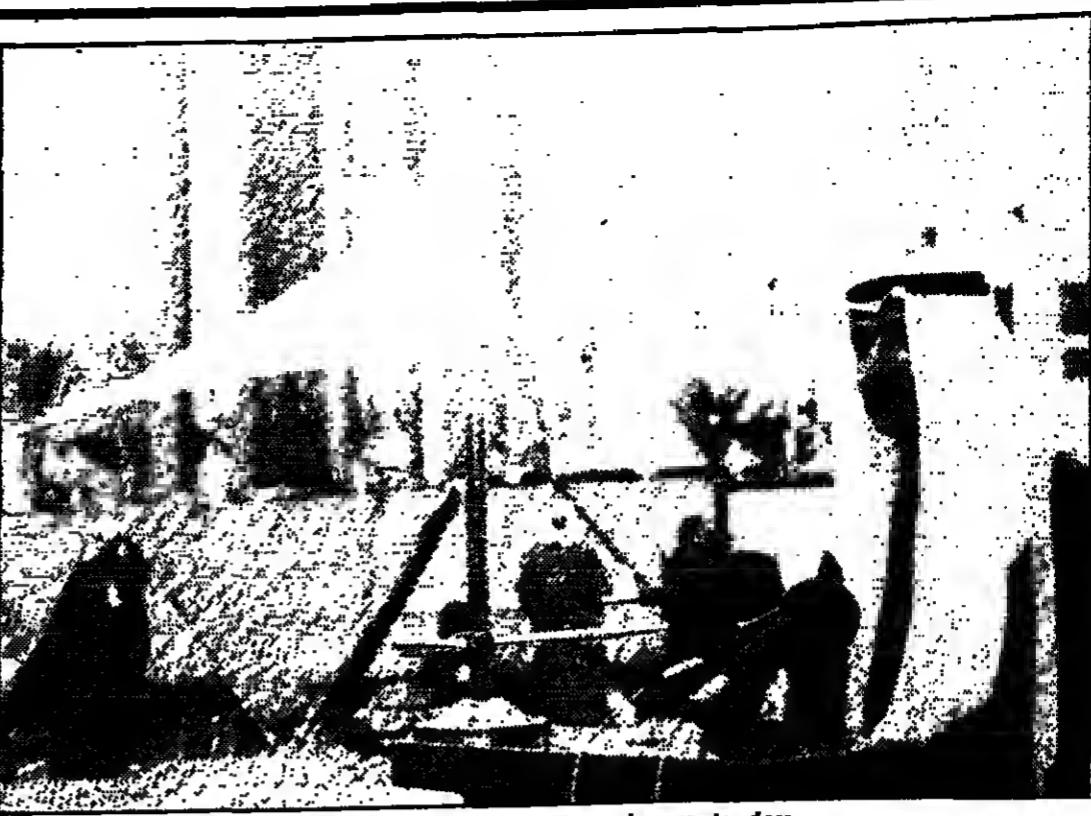
He expressed hope that the

Lebanese crisis would come to an end so as Lebanon be able to resume its national role.

On the restoration of diplomatic relations between Kuwait and Egypt, Sheikh Jaber said by restoring relations, we give President Hosni Mubarak a valuable chance to restore to Egypt its Arab role.

On the recent cabinet reshuffle in Kuwait, the Kuwaiti minister said it was carried out with the aim of "giving the chance for the young generation to put its capabilities in service of the state."

He said that the Kuwaiti press is heading for a new stage, disclosing that a plan is under way to regulate the press that will be of good impact on the Kuwaiti press.



Al Rifai recalls the history of Safat Square at the opening yesterday.

## Safat Square Project opens

THE Safat Square Project was officially opened yesterday by Kuwait's Minister for Municipal Affairs Mohammed Al Rifai. The square, which was designed to alleviate traffic congestion in the Safat area, features a large paved area with a huge fountain, trees and shrubs.

Instead of crossing busy streets, pedestrians can now use underground tunnels, lined with shops, some of which feature traditional handicrafts.

The project, which covers a total area of 12,000 square metres, 3,500 of which are landscaped with plants and shrubs, was built at a cost of KD4.25 million. It will be managed by the Public Utilities Company.

In its opening speech, Al Rifai recalled the history of Safat Square, saying it had been an important trading centre in Kuwait and was linked with the Kuwaiti people for over a century.

The Ministers of Social Affairs and Labour, Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Sabah; Public Works, Abdul Rahman Al Houti and Minister of State for Service Affairs Issa Al Mazeidi attended the opening, along with a number of undersecretaries, officials and diplomats.



Traditional folk troupes and bedouin tents link the past with the present at the opening of the Safat Square Project. (Pictures by Mohammed Bedaq)

## Murder trial postponed again

RIYADH, Feb 29, (AP): The trial of Paul and Monica Hall, a British couple charged with the murder of an Irish nurse nearly two years ago, was postponed today and no date was fixed for the next hearing.

"A British embassy spokesman said that the latest session in the summer resort town of Taif, where the 48-year-old nurse Helen Feeney was found battered to death in April 1986, lasted for about an hour.

The Saudi judge adjourned without reaching a verdict or making it clear when the trial will reconvene, said the spokesman who could not be named under embassy rules.

Other sources said that the trial was likely to resume in about two weeks time because the judge would need time to sift through a huge amount of paperwork. They did not elaborate.

The trial started on Feb 6 in Taif, about 1,000 kilometres away from Riyadh.

The trial took an unexpected turn at the last hearing a week ago when the couple, both in their late 30's, withdrew their earlier confession of guilt and pleaded innocent.

The Halls, according to the embassy spokesman, reiterated their wish to withdraw their previous confession and told the court that they are both happy with the treatment they have received in the 20 months of their incarceration.

This appeared to contradict the testimony they made last week that their previous admission of guilt was made under duress.

They were also quoted as saying that they are healthy and doing well.

Miss Feeney, from county

## Utilities company maintaining car parks

THE Director-General of Kuwait's Public Utilities Company Abdul Rahman Mubarak Al Qawood said the company is responsible for maintenance services, revenue collection, security and management of public buildings, multi-storey parking facilities and bachelor towns.

Al Qawood said that the company originally managed five car parks and the Gold Market. The work has expanded, he said, to include the stock exchange market, bachelor towns, the used car market and the sheep market.

He explained that shop rental at the Gold Market had dropped significantly from 1984. The company is planning to diversify the types of businesses at the market and to allow, if approved by the ministries, non-Kuwaitis to have businesses there.

Al Qawood said the General Traffic Department at the Interior Ministry has assigned the company to take care of coin-operated parking facilities.

ARAB TIMES, TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 1988

## Abu Ghazala's message for Sheikh Sabah

KUWAIT'S Acting Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed, yesterday received a message from Egypt's Deputy Premier and Minister of Defence and Military Production and Commander-in-Chief of the Egyptian Army Field Marshal Abdur Halim Abu Ghazala.

Sheikh Sabah told newsmen that the message, delivered by a special envoy Ahmed Halmi in the presence of the Egyptian Ambassador Saeed Refaat, was on bilateral relations and means of fostering them in all fields.

The message also falls in line with follow up of the issues discussed during Abu Ghazala's visit to the country last December, he said.

Sheikh Sabah later received a Swiss Foreign Ministry envoy Alfred Rugg who is currently visiting here within the framework of a Gulf tour. Cordial ties and developments of the situation in the Gulf were discussed.

Sheikh Sabah also received the Minister of Defence Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed.

## UAE studying ten-year residence

THE Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry is studying a proposal to grant some expatriates living in the United Arab Emirates ten-year residence permits. These expatriates would act as their own sponsors and have the right to renew their residency for another ten-year period.

The proposal, published in the Al Bayan daily, calls for very careful selection of expatriates and aims at providing designated expatriates with stability which will enable them to invest surplus funds in the UAE markets, thus contributing to its growth.

The proposal also includes allowing "certain sections of expatriates" with the right to start private businesses and exemption from deportation in cases of conviction of crimes, sentencing them to jail only. These expatriates would also be allowed to sponsor their families.

## Death for murdering money-exchanger

KUWAIT'S Criminal Court sentenced a man to death for his premeditated murder of a money-exchanger.

According to testimony given in court, the defendant, claiming to be a security officer, took the victim to a desert area near Ahmadi where he killed the man and then robbed his shop.

Security men found the body of the victim off a desert road in the Ahmadi Governorate. They knew the defendant would be trying to change the various currencies he had stolen, so they contacted other money-exchangers.



● The head of Kuwait's permanent delegation to the United Nations and Kuwait's Consul General at Karachi held parties to celebrate Kuwait's 27th National Day. Top picture shows the Consul General at Karachi, Hamad Al Nasser (centre) talking to the chief minister of Sind (right) and another guest. Bottom picture shows the head of the permanent delegation to the UN, Mohammad Abul Hassan (second left), receiving guests.



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## 27 cars damaged

THE manager of a car company in Nugra reported to the police that somebody used a metal instrument to damage 27 cars of the company.

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### Publications officials meet

PRESS and publications officials in GCC states will begin their fourth meeting in Riyadh today. They will discuss ways of boosting information exchange between these departments, exchange visits and a report on the progress of these departments.

## EVENTS

BEHIND every successful man there is a woman. This couldn't be more true about Chitra and Jagjit Singh. Chitra Singh, who accompanies her husband on musical concerts, is said to be the "driving force behind" Jagjit.

When Jagjit and Chitra married, they combined the joie de vivre of Punjabi folk sounds (Jagjit Singh is a Punjabi) and the sweet melody of Bengali music (Chitra hails from West Bengal) to create refreshing sounds.

A gifted singer Chitra, who had made her mark in singing ghazals written by Meen, Ghafib, Momio and Jigar, became Jagjit's singing partner. Together, they overcame odds and revived ghazal, a blend of verse and music which is part of the cultural scene in the sub-continent.

### Series

Many critics say that the duo catapulted to fame after giving a series of concerts abroad in the 1970s. One of the countries they visited during that period was Kuwait. Then, they were fresh and enthusiastic to push the form of music they specialized in. Now, they are at the peak of their career and have been dubbed as the "king and queen" of ghazal and are returning to perform on Friday night at the Kuwait Hilton Hotel.

Jagjit Singh was brought up

## Ghazal singers revisit Kuwait



Jagjit and Chitra Singh: together they make music

in Rajasthan, which is known as the cradle of Indian folklore. At an early age he began training under Ustad Jamal Khan to learn the finer aspects of classical music. Because of a rich, resonant voice he blossomed into a fine vocalist and began

composing, creating catchy rhythms and soulful music. His tunes are based on ancient ragas which are embellished with modern sounds.

Ghazal music originated in Mughal courts and was considered a preoccupation of the

elites. Earlier this century, only a handful of singers like Talat Mahmood, Akbar Bai Farzad and others upheld the tradition of the ghazal. Interest in this type of music had tapered and become min-

imal until such singers as Jagjit and Chitra Singh and Meen Hassan came to the fore.

### New wave

The singing duo are largely responsible for pioneering what is now known as the new wave of ghazals and bringing this form of music to the masses. Verse and music were simplified so that the man on the street understood it. The music of Jagjit and Chitra was lapped up by the masses partly because of the deteriorating standard of Hindi film music, which had in one way contributed to the extinction of the ghazal.

Though popular, they have been criticised for "the sameness" of their music and "unchanging style." Despite what critics say, they have carved a niche for themselves in the ghazal music scene in India, recording 14 discs in the last decade, including the *Unforgettables*, *Milestone*, *Ghazal*, *Your Choice* and a series of *bhajans* (devotional songs).

Jagjit has composed music for many Hindi films, among them are *Arth*, *Avishkar*, *Sath Sath*, *Premgeet*. His forthcoming films are *Nirvana*, *Rashee*, *Aaj* and *Aashna*.

They have also encouraged such newcomers as Talat Aziz, Ghansham Vaswani, Vinod Sehgal, Ashok Khosla and others.

FA

## Absurd but hilarious

By Keith Wells

DO you ever get into a situation where nothing seems to make sense, but it's all terribly funny? Yes, KTV News is a perfect example. Well, that kind of surreal comedy is the essence of the Theatre of the Absurd, a movement that began in France after the Second World War as various playwrights tried to create a new kind of drama that somehow would capture the illogicality of existence.

Perhaps the best known example of this type of play is Beckett's "Waiting for Godot" where two tramps sit around waiting for something to happen. It never does, but in the waiting they come up with hilarious non sequiturs, strange elusive insights and some of the funniest moments ever written for the stage.

Eugene Ionesco was a pioneer of this kind of theatre and his play "The Bald Soprano" is a short, but classic, example of Absurdist drama that alternates between hilarity and unreality, between the artificial and the surreal. It is being

staged by the Americo Community Theatre at the Mousetrap Theatre from March 7 to March 10.

On the same bill is another one act play, "The American Dream" by Edward Albee who also wrote "Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolf?" This play is a bit more realistic than "The Bald Soprano," but is, if anything, even funnier. But make no mistake, although they will make you laugh, these plays are not just empty-headed farces. They are thought-provoking and stimulating attempts to see behind the reality of ordinary life to the hidden depths of human existence. We laugh, but it makes us think at the same time.

Amateur Dramatics in Kuwait provide lots of harmless fun, but in attempting to stage these two plays, the ACT is offering a rare chance for Kuwait audiences to see something more satisfying. Titled, "An Evening of Absurdity," this production could prove to be one which will linger in the heart and mind long after the laughter stops.

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African language services prompted 21,125 letters to Hausa and 19,525 to Swahili, while African Alternative — broadcast in English — produced 13,548 written responses. There were 17,014 letters from Indonesia and 2443 from listeners in Brazil.

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A new BBC transmitter opened in Hong Kong in October 198

## Thought for today

THE golden age only comes to men when they have forgotten gold — G K Chesterton, English author (1874-1936).

## OPINION

## Israeli cruelty fuelling uprising

THE Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak showed a great deal of insight when he announced at the beginning of the Palestinian uprising that the autonomy proposal included in the Camp David accords was no longer relevant. He added that many things had changed in the region, and that Israel and the US should be fully aware of these changes if they really wanted peace in this area.

When Mubarak made these statements he was cognizant of the fact that the Palestinian uprising would not be easily thwarted. It is an uprising that is difficult to fight, control or predict.

Now, the US Secretary of State George Shultz, who once hated the Middle East and its problems, is back in the region. It seems that prior to his arrival he was unaware of the magnitude of the crisis. However, even in his attempts at courtesy with Israel, Shultz could not hide his recognition that Israel was obviously making several mistakes, the most important of which was its failure to recognise the magnitude of the conflict.

Israel still thinks the present situation is similar to that of 1948 when the world kept its eyes closed to the Israeli theft of Palestinian lands and the massacre of its people.

This is not the time of the former US President Truman. It is not 1917, and it is not the time of the former British Foreign Secretary and his infamous Balfour Declaration.

This is the time of satellites, enabling the whole world to watch daily the inhuman Israeli brutality.

And although the Palestinians presently combat the Israeli occupation forces with stones, it should not be assumed that these will not progress to arms and bombs and killing and bloodshed as it is seen in similar revolutions in other countries.

This was the situation that President Mubarak recognised and warned the US about. It is not a time when autonomy rule or partial settlements will be easily accepted by the uprising.

Soon, Israel and its ally, the US, will regret that they did not realise that the Palestinians in the uprising were not stupid, as they thought. The Palestinians are obviously sure of what they want; their moves are well organised, their voices are the same and their response to their leadership is an absolute obedience.

While Israel kills innocent people and breaks the arms of children, it forgets that this fuels the fire. Israel has only to listen to the slogans shouted at every funeral of a Palestinian martyr to realise they are stronger and more powerful than the hymns recited by the Israeli extremists at the Wailing Wall.

Sharon, the criminal of the 20th century, and Shamir, whose history is marred with murder and blood, will teach the Jewish people even before the Palestinians, the consequences of this extremism, which is unparalleled, except by Khomeini at the eastern gate of the Arab world.

The Israeli leadership will pay a heavy price for the demented Mairi Kahana's statement that Israel should throw the Arabs of the occupied lands to Jordan. Arabs once said they would throw Israel into the sea, and those who said it paid a price. Soon this Israeli dog will regret his words when he sees that he is the one thrown out of the Palestinian lands.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

## Afghan refugees anxious to go home

By Jack Reed

MUNDA, Pakistan, (UPI): Like millions of his countrymen, Afghan Mohammad Farooq sees a grim life in a windswept refugee camp beneath Pakistan's western mountains, anxious to return to his ravaged homeland but skeptical of Soviet withdrawal plans that hinge on this week's Geneva talks.

"We'll be the happiest lot in the world if the Russians withdraw," said Farooq, fuming his grizzled beard in the steps of a supply shack at the Munda 6 refugee camp, 40 miles (65 km) north of the frontier town of Peshawar.

"But the Russians have been trying to dupe us for the last eight years," he said. "We'll not be taken in by this."

## Ignore

Like many of the 5,918 registered refugees in Munda 6, Farooq knows a Soviet withdrawal alone will never allow him and his family — and 3.1 million other refugees across Pakistan — to end their exile.

"This is a miserable life," said Fazel Mohammad. "Such a bleak camp... in us, Afghanistan is a paradise. But we'll not return as long as Najibullah is there."

Our real enemy is not the Soviets; it's the Afghan communists," he said. "We've been fighting for the glory of Islam. We accept nothing else."

Pakistan and the Soviet-installed Kabul regime headed by Najibullah — the former boss of the Afghan secret police — resume talks in Geneva Wednesday on a Soviet withdrawal of its 115,000 occupation troops.

The talks focus on four issues: the withdrawal timetable, international guarantees, pledges of non-interference that would halt the flow of Western arms to the

Pakistan-based muslim resistance, which last week offered its own proposal for an interim coalition, has vowed to ignore any accord signed at Geneva with the Najibullah regime and warned that Pakistan may be pressured by Washington into a compromise.

Washington, which would be required under the Geneva accords to halt its support for the resistance, has been sympathetic to Pakistan's position. But it also has insisted that getting the Soviets out is the priority.

In Kabul, Najibullah has not wavered from the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan's 14-month-old "national reconciliation policy" that offers posts like the culture and sports ministries to the resistance but keeps key ministries in its own hands.

If the refugees will not return home, Pakistan is stuck with them at a daily cost of \$1 million, split roughly 50-50 between Pakistan and international aid.

## Beijing to streamline administration

## Chinese technocrats will have more say

By Ann Scott Tyson

BEIJING: Chinese leaders have launched an ambitious drive to prevent China's overcentralised bureaucracy from stifling economic reform.

The drive calls for separating China's overlapping Communist Party and government bureaucracies, which together employ 27 million officials. It will streamline their ranks and shift power from poorly educated party cadres to technocrats better skilled in economic management.

Chinese leader Zhao says the bureaucratic shake-up, which will take years to complete, is vital to progress in the nation's market-oriented economic reforms, which have slowed after nearly a decade of dramatic achievements.

"Without reform of the political structure, reform of the economic structure cannot succeed in the end," Zhao said, as he outlined the administrative changes in a speech to the 13th

party congress last October.

The most controversial task of the administrative restructuring is to end the Communist Party's direct involvement in government affairs. A few cities and provinces began experimenting with the policy early last year, but the pace and scope of implementation have accelerated since the party congress.

"It is essential... to change that old custom and tradition of having the party committee monopolise everything," Zhao said in a speech to party leaders Oct 14.

## Intertwined

Zhao and other leaders stress that the separation of party and government will not weaken the party's ultimate power. It has, however, stirred opposition from among China's millions of party cadres, who fear that without direct control over the government administration their prestige and influence will wane.

Moreover, Chinese leaders face a daunting task as they move to disentangle the nation's unwieldy party government

party secretaries, the heads of government departments could not make any important decisions or handle important matters," the official China Daily newspaper commented last month.

Today, reforms are aimed at ending the party's 39-year-old practice of dominating the administration — from education, labour, agriculture, and commerce, to garbage collection and anti-spitting campaigns.

## Dissolving

"(Party) leaders must avoid getting entangled in a pile of routine affairs. They cannot truly play a leading role if they are entangled in trivia all day long," stressed Zhao, general secretary of the 46-million-member party.

In the northeastern city of Harbin, a pioneering community administrative reform, government officials used to complain that they "could not even decide what side of the street a rubbish bin should be put" now without the party's approval, according

to the official magazine Outlook. Today, Harbin, Peking, and other Chinese cities and provinces nationwide are in the process of disbanding hundreds of party organs that are directly engaged in administration, especially those handling economic regulation.

Party cadres from the disbanded departments are being transferred in government jobs, demoted to serve in grass-roots party organisations, or retired. The changes have alarmed many low- and middle-level party cadres, who realise that the reforms will end their absolute and long undisputed power over cities, neighbourhoods, factories, schools, and other workplaces.

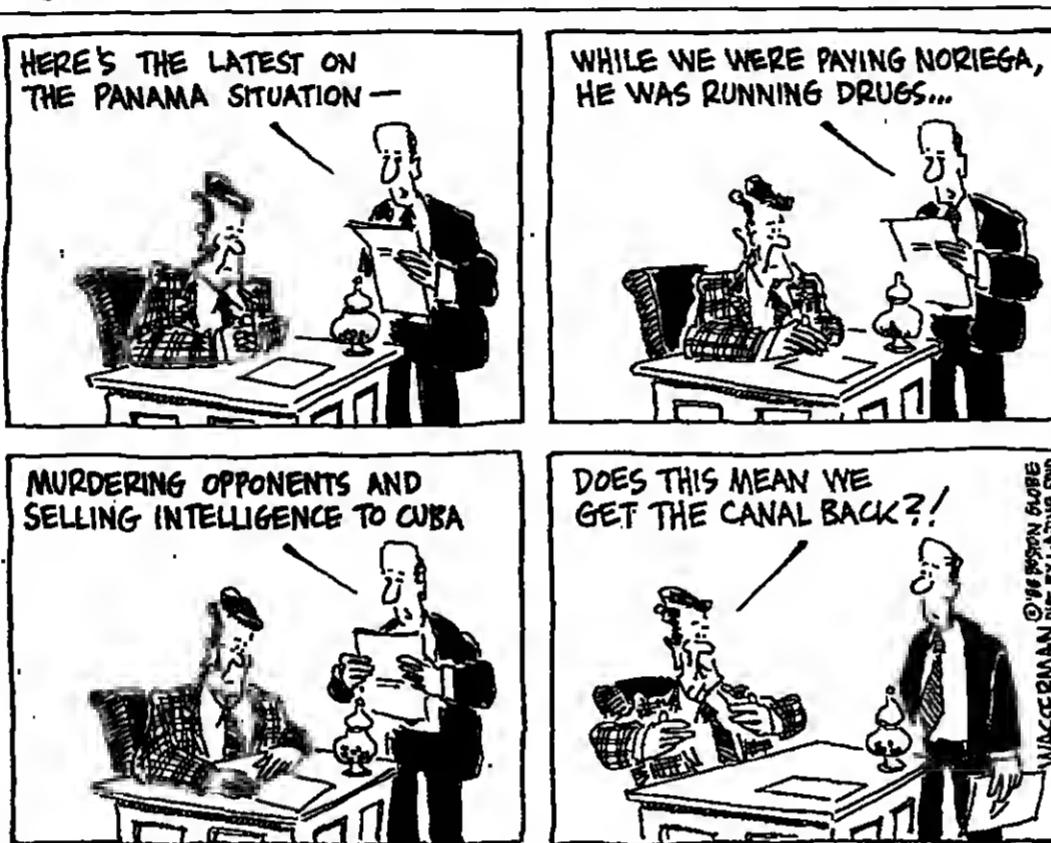
"In the past, if people didn't take heed of what I said, I could cut their wage or their bonus," said Tian Chengping, party secretary of Peking's western district, which initiated the reforms late last year. "Now we have to depend on ideological persuasion."

Chinese leaders seek to establish a strict division of labour between the party's "political cadres" and the government's "professional cadres." The party is to make "major decisions," provide ideological leadership, and recommend candidates for top government posts, while government technocrats manage the economy and administration.

Left with the increasingly thankless task of disseminating political and ideological propaganda, some party cadres are taking jobs as factory directors or switching to other positions that will benefit from the restructuring.

The next indication of the progress of the reforms is expected to come when China's nominal parliament, the National People's Congress, opens its annual session March 25. The Congress is scheduled to announce specific plans for trimming the central government bureaucracy.

The Christian Science Monitor



## Panama crisis

## No serious challenge to Noriega

By Bernd Debusmann

PANAMA CITY, (Reuters): Panama's latest political crisis has highlighted the weakness of domestic opposition to General Manuel Antonio Noriega and diplomats here say it is unlikely to be forced from power soon.

Noriega faced an unprecedented constitutional challenge to his de facto rule on Thursday when the country's figurehead civilian president, Eric Arturo Delvalle, announced he had decided to dismiss the general as head of the armed forces.

Within hours, Panama's parliament met in emergency session and fired Delvalle instead, saying his move violated the constitution and had been inspired by the United States.

The cabinet named a new president, Education Minister Manuel Solis Palma, and commanders of the 16,000-strong armed forces declared their solidarity with Noriega.

Noriega made very astute moves," said a European ambassador. "He had apparently expected a manœuvre to get him out, he was prepared for it, and he came out on top."

## Hiding

After saying he still considered himself Panama's legal president, Delvalle eluded a tight military guard round his home, climbed over a fence and went into hiding.

In Washington, the Reagan administration declared it still recognised Delvalle. But

## Ignoring

Without a change of government, Pakistani officials argue, refugees scattered in nearly 300 camps along the Afghan border will never leave.

Though eager to withdraw, Moscow refuses to link its pullout to creation of an interim government and has accused Pakistan of attempting to sabotage the withdrawal.

## Ignoring

The Pakistani-based muslim resistance, which last week offered its own proposal for an interim coalition, has vowed to ignore any accord signed at Geneva with the Najibullah regime and warned that Pakistan may be pressured by Washington into a compromise.

Washington, which would be required under the Geneva accords to halt its support for the resistance, has been sympathetic to Pakistan's position. But it also has insisted that getting the Soviets out is the priority.

## Ignoring

In Kabul, Najibullah has not wavered from the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan's 14-month-old "national reconciliation policy" that offers posts like the culture and sports ministries to the resistance but keeps key ministries in its own hands.

If the refugees will not return home, Pakistan is stuck with them at a daily cost of \$1 million, split roughly 50-50 between Pakistan and international aid.

diplomats here thought he bad virtually no hope of being re-elected to the presidency.

"Delvalle has no power base and little credibility as an opposition figure," said a Latin envoy.

While he served as nominal president, Delvalle showed no sympathy for the Civic Crusade, an anti-Noriega movement which last year sought to hasten the end of military rule by organising demonstrations of mostly middle-class Panamanians who waved white banderole at the guns of security forces.

Last year, Delvalle repeatedly attempted to ban anti-Noriega demonstrations, branding them subversive attempts to undermine the government.

The crusade ran out of momentum when the government responded with force, using teargas and shotguns against demonstrators who had no taste for violence.

While leaders of the Civic Crusade have likened it to the broad-based movement which swept Ferdinand Marcos from power in the Philippines, it failed to produce a leader of the stature of Corazon Aquino.

"There is no sign of the opposition becoming any more effective in the future than it has been in the past eight months," said a Western diplomat. "It is still largely restricted to the middle class and it still lacks a charismatic figure."

The limits of support for anti-Noriega moves have been thrown into sharp focus by a long

## Rioting

In December 1986, large scale rioting broke out in Alma Ata, the capital of the Central Asian Republic of Kazakhstan after ethnic Russian was placed in charge of the local party.

Demonstrations involving tens of thousands of nationalists have taken place in the three Baltic republics of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, which were taken over by the Soviet Union in 1940. At least nine different demonstrations have been admitted in those areas since June.

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string of strike calls since mid-1987, most of which drew little more than lukewarm response.

Noriega has been the target of increasing bitter criticism both at home and from the United States, where US grand juries this month indicted him on charges of taking \$4.6 million in bribes in return for turning Panama into a conduit for Colombian cocaine.

But Washington, which has 10,000 troops stationed along the strategic Panama Canal, has ruled out using force in ousting Noriega and is seeking political, diplomatic and economic options to break his hold on power.

## Challenging

On the diplomatic front, there were signs that few countries were prepared to follow the United States in challenging the legitimacy of the new government here.

While some of the envoys thought that the dismissal of Delvalle was on the edge of legality, there appeared consensus that the basis of Solis Palma's appointment was no more or less shaky than had been Delvalle's in 1985 when he took office after the military forced the resignation of elected President Nicolas Ardito Barletta.

## Tolerance

Chief of diplomatic missions were called to a Foreign Ministry briefing on Saturday to listen to what one described a "presentation aimed at dispelling doubts over the constitutionality of the changes in Panama."

While some of the envoys thought that the new restrictions, which anti-apartheid groups termed a declaration of war, were "not enough."

The regulations follow a series

of two-day sit-in in Red Square demanding a return to their ethnic homeland from which they were deported by Josef Stalin after World War II. Thousands of Tatars have continued public protests in Tashkent, Uzbekistan seeking a return to the Crimea.

In January the largest public protest in years involving more than 100 Jewish Refuseniks took place in Moscow.

## Tolerance

But the Yerevan protests seeking a return to Armenian control of the predominantly Armenian Nagorno Karabakh autonomous region which has been under control of the neighbouring republic of Azerbaijan since 1923 are the largest and potentially the most damaging both internally and externally in Gorbachev's reign.

According to some Western diplomats there are two key reasons behind the upsurge of these public displays of nationalism, the most important of which

is the Kremlin's greater tolerance of dissent under Gorbachev's glasnost (openness) and perestroika (reorganisation) policies. The second is that nationalists all over the Soviet Union may interpret this greater tolerance as a weakening of the political will in the Kremlin to maintain order at all costs.

After all, the Crimean Tatars managed to win some concessions and a government commission to look into their complaints with their protests.

With the Kremlin willing to listen, the ethnic minorities who have been voiceless are demanding to be heard.

## Growth

Gorbachev himself has recognised the critical situation that has sprung up around the nationalists problem, perhaps the most vexing and potentially explosive internal issue facing the communist leadership.

It is this very colonial mentality in its governing relations with the republics that has spurned resentment in the non-Russian republics.

Gorbachev has increasingly expressed his disappointment with the economic performance of the non-Slavic republics and has reacted by sending more

European Russians to take key posts in outlying republics and push his reform policies on them.

The republics in turn feel they do not get enough return from Moscow for their economic contributions of raw materials and resources and being made to work harder with no tangible material benefits.

Part of the explosion is nationalism has been the government's inability to face the nationalities issue head-on, instead blaming outside interference from the West.

In a speech last September KGB chief Victor Chebrikov said the "virus of nationalism" was a Western plot to undermine the Soviet Union's economy. Such attitudes do nothing to mask the

On the trail of 'The Last Emperor' in China

## Freading new ground in cinema

By George Parry

IT IS an irony typical of the industry that the director who recently picked up the most Academy Award nominations had to endure a fallow period of seven years between films and only made *The Last Emperor* on the rebound from the cancellation of another project.

Bernardo Bertolucci explains: "You know how the adventure started? I was quite unhappy because the movie I had been preparing for two years collapsed suddenly. So I wanted to go as far away as possible. Somebody had given me a book to read about the last emperor of China. So I went to China."

Bertolucci is remarkable for his success in treading new ground in the cinema. Originality is often not considered compatible with box-office popularity, but *The Last Emperor*, apart from its Oscar potential, has had gratifyingly high returns all over the world. "I have had the feeling," he says, "that television monoculture has made it really dangerous to do original things. But China's so original it goes beyond that."

### Departure

This biographical film is something of a fresh departure in the 47-year-old director's career. His last film, *Tragedy of a Ridiculous Man* was a teasingly ambiguous kidnap story which won Ugo Tognazzi the Best Actor award at the 1981 Cannes Festival. He became internationally notorious in 1973 with *Last Tango in Paris* and in 1976 he made the long, elegiac *1900*, about the struggle of northern Italian landowners, which seems closest, in character to the new film.

In the meantime he has become a dedicated anglophile, having married the British director Clare Peploe and acquired both brother-in-law and screenwriter in Mark Peploe, with whom he is jointly nominated for Best Adaptation.

*The Last Emperor*, which cost \$20m to make, is the life

Bernardo Bertolucci, talks about his Oscar-nominated film 'The Last Emperor' which cost \$20 million and was filmed in The Forbidden City with the cooperation of the Chinese government and the use of the Chinese Army.



Bertolucci: 'In China I was in another universe'

story of Pu Yi, who ascended the Dragon Throne at the age of three in 1908. In 1912 China became a republic, but the young emperor continued to rule within Peking's Forbidden City, which he was not allowed to leave. In the 1920s, by which time he had acquired two wives, he was expelled, and when the Japanese invaded Manchuria in 1931, Pu Yi was flattered into accepting the puppet

throne of Manchukuo. Not surprisingly, after the Second World War the communists were annoyed and flung him into jail for re-education in Maoist dogma. The man who was once attended by 1,500 eunuchs ended his days as a bicycle-riding Peking municipal gardener.

Bertolucci and his British

producer, Jeremy Thomas, obtained Chinese co-operation

"They allowed us to shoot everywhere I wanted," says Bertolucci, "even in courtyards which had been locked for 50 years. When the rusty locks were opened we found weeds everywhere."

### Symptoms

Visually the film is extraordinarily sumptuous and exotic. The production designer, Fernando Scarfiotti, who like the cinematographer Vittorio Storaro has worked with Bertolucci on many films, built most of the interior sets, except for the coronation room, in studios in Peking. Members of the cast were recruited from the Chinatowns of New York, San Francisco and London and had never visited their motherland before.

Says Bertolucci: "I had to tell them how to move, in that modest Chinese manner, not a Western swagger. The Chinese have a different concept of time, a different pace of work. To stay in Peking was just too expensive, and we finished the film in Rome. There were also problems of communication. We had an army of interpreters, the nicest of whom were Western students who didn't feel the need to censor what I was saying. On one occasion I had a thousand extras in costume I wanted to move right, but after the Chinese assistant had interpreted it, they all went left. We also had a scene where all the cyclists move off on a red traffic light. That actually happened for a few months during the Cultural revolution.

"It's not easy to exit from the experience of making this film. True, 1900 took longer, the shooting was 11 months. But I was in Parma, where I was born. In China I was in another universe."

in the making of the film, including access to the Forbidden City itself, together with hordes of extras and the use of the Chinese Army. (The new outgoing climate also benefited Spielberg, whose *Empire of the Sun*, a different kind of Chinese-based epic, has been chosen for next month's Royal Film Performance.)

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## From art cinema to big-time Hollywood

By Matthew Heller

LOS ANGELES, Reuter: British actor Daniel Day-Lewis thought at first that at 30 he was too young and "completely inappropriate" for the starring role in *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*.

The film, which opened in the United States recently, is based on Czech writer Milan Kundera's philosophical novel about a womanising doctor, Tomas, caught between his love for his wife and his "erotic friendships" with other women.

Day-Lewis, in an interview recalled thinking that Tomas' life would take an enormous amount of exploration and conurbation.

"When I read the book, Tomas in particular and the main characters in general only existed as vehicles for ideas. He didn't really exist for me as a character. I did not know whether it was possible to find out enough about him."

But he says it was his initial

reservations about the part and his own suitability that finally drew him to it.

The film, which cost 17.5 million dollars, is Day-Lewis' first big Hollywood production.

"The possibility of making a

bad film with all these resources is absolutely terrifying. You can't help but be aware of the pressures of the money involved and the whole circus," he said.

Day-Lewis burst onto the film scene a couple of years ago with two stunning and widely-differing performances.

He played a working class homosexual in *My Beautiful Laundrette* and an insufferable prig from the opposite end of the British social scale in the merchant-ivory production of E.M. Forster's book *A Room With A View*.

Both were surprise hits being low-budget, small-scale and British-made.

The rsc reviews for his earlier performances mean that expectations for Day-Lewis are running high.

"Before, one had the joyous experience of coming from nowhere," he said. "The reaction made me laugh. I felt like I was digging up Fulham soccer pitch (field) and the lights were turned on to me."

The *Unbearable Lightness of Being* is set in Czechoslovakia during and after the "Prague Spring" of 1968.

"I'm curious about lives that appear to touch my own life on a very small level," he said. "My own life is not something I



Daniel Day-Lewis stars in *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*, based on Czech writer Milan Kundera's philosophical novel about a womanising doctor.

Day-Lewis appears awkward about bridging the gap between eccentric art films and mainstream Hollywood.

"You create a family atmosphere when you work on quirky films in England," he said. "You believe in them absolutely but you have no expectations. You make them entirely because you want to make them."

Day-Lewis has also completed another Hollywood-backed film, *Stars and Bars*, in which he plays the lead role of a disaster-prone Englishman in America.

"I would be very careful about joining the circus. You do have a sense of being a performing seal."

"She came from the same background, the same people I did. They had nothing to look forward to, but they worked hard to make something of themselves."

"This is the best work I have done since 'Two Women,' and I was only 24 when I played that role. I do much better when I play earthy women because I can relate more easily to them."

"Glamour roles are fun. And it is nice to wear a fabulous wardrobe and jewels, but to make strides in my career I am better off with earthy parts, which leave me with a greater sense of accomplishment because they are more substantial."

"The *Fortunate Pilgrim*, to be broadcast on April 3-4, was filmed last summer in Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

## Sophia Loren prefers peasants to royalty

By Vernon Scott

HOLLYWOOD, (UPI): One of the most chic, sophisticated women in Hollywood is Sophia Loren, but at heart she is an Italian earth mother who prefers playing peasants to royalty — and she's done both.

She won an Academy Award in 1961 for her role of the Italian mother in *Two Women*. And she was the epitome of elegance in *'A Countess From Hong Kong'* and she's done both.

However, seated in a luxurious hangout of the Beverly Hills Hotel, Loren looked anything but a peasant, wearing a yellow blouse and trendy short black skirt displaying her long legs to their best advantage.

But she feels closer to Sophia Scicolone, the name she was born with in Rome in 1934, than she does to the glamour girl she has played on occasion.

Loren, who divides her time between a green-pastured ranch some 30 miles (48 km) from Holl

ywood and a home in Geneva, takes on another Italian peasant role of mama Lucia, "Loren said.

"But there were complicated reasons why it could not be done."

"I persisted and stubbornly stayed after it. Two years ago I asked Puzo for the TV rights and a deal was put together. No one makes feature films like this anymore and the book was just the right length for a five-hour mini-series."

"I wanted to play mama Lucia because I knew those kind of women in Italy. I am from the same sort of situation. I felt close to her, a woman from a poor family who followed the stream of Italian immigrants to the United States."

## THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brent Parker and Johnny Hart



By Johnny Hart

B.C.



## YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You should keep your objectives very much in mind. Make sure you leave yourself with enough time to meet your commitments. Take the best possible care of your health. Be moderate.



Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

You should keep your wits very much about you. You will not be beaten by your brilliant best, but you will be able to cope provided you keep at it. There is no reason to lose confidence. Be prompt.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You should keep your wits very much about you. You will not be beaten by your brilliant best, but you will be able to cope provided you keep at it. There is no reason to lose confidence. Be prompt.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You should ensure that you do not do anything rash. A good idea will help you to deal with an outstanding matter. Do not just think that all will be well in the end. Be sensible.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

The Moon's better influence will help you to make your voice heard. You will be better able to cope with your personal affairs.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You should devote all your energies to the most important tasks. Leave secondary matters until later. You will have to act swiftly if you do not want a good opportunity to pass you by. Be magnanimous.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You should do all you can to keep things simple. Make sure you do not strain your eyes. There is good cause for a little more optimism. Be reliable.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

The prospects for the first part of the month are really good. Only you must not just expect good things to happen without working for them. Do not do anything you know is not right. Be tactful.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You should make a real effort to catch up on a backlog. Take good care you do not spend more than you earn. Do all you can to avoid stress and conflict. Be forthcoming. Be tolerant.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You should not take so much exercise that you strain yourself. Make sure you take the trouble to learn how to use a new device. A friend will greatly appreciate your help and sympathy. Be a little more observant.



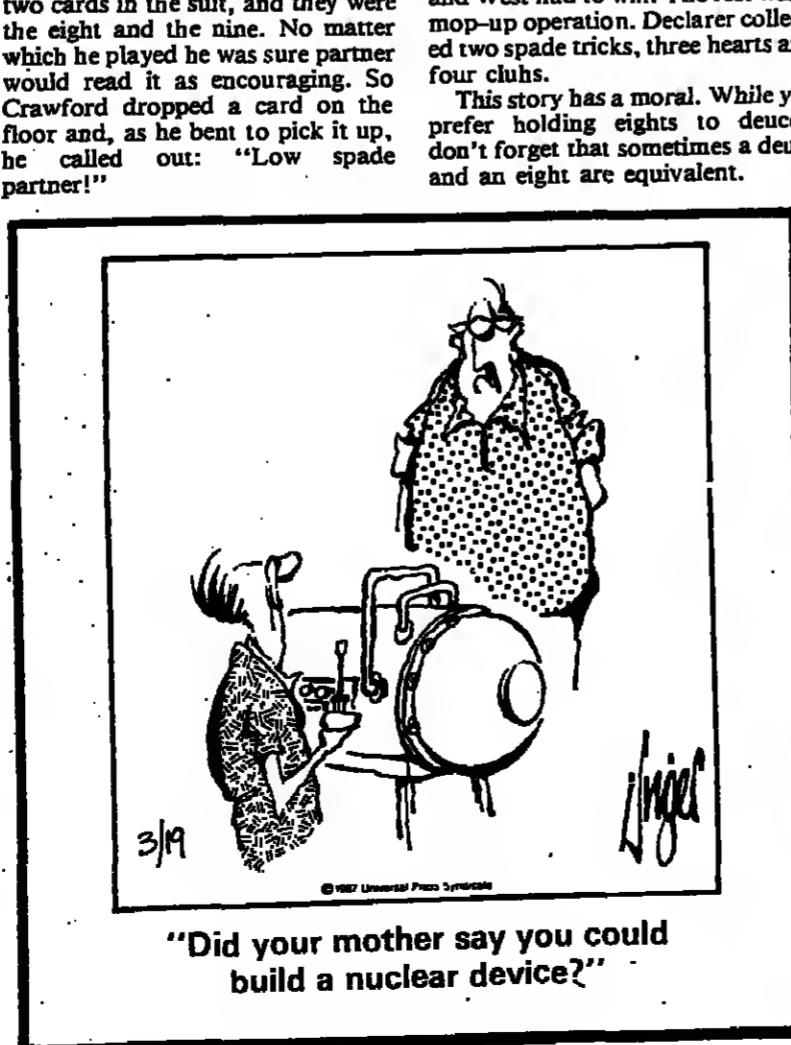
Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You will be able to have an interesting conversation. However, do not try to dominate it. Your children will be both a source of pleasure and a cause of some concern to you. Be sensible.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You will have to endeavour to expose yourself to infection. You should do all you can to avoid confusion and misunderstandings. Do not gossip and do not engage in speculation. Be tolerant.



## Dear Junior Readers,

MANY of your schools are now planning special spring programmes and concerts. These are special events in your schools and we would like to share them with our readers.

Please send us pictures of special events your school sponsors along with a brief description of the activity and the picture. Or if you are in the Shuwaikh area, you can just drop them at the Arab Times Office.

Keep your school in the news by letting the Junior Times know about your activities, then we can all enjoy what the various schools are doing.

Aunt Barbara

## A garden of curiosities

1. The Greek goddess of the rainbow gives her name to what flower of varied and striking colours?

2. To what flower, with its sunburst centre and radiant petals, was Chaucer referring when he wrote 'the eye of day'?

3. Why is an anemone sometimes called a windflower?

4. What type of clover was used by St Patrick as his symbol?

5. Why does the dainty pansy wear such a 'thoughtful' mien?

6. Can you describe a desert rose?

7. For whom was the poinsettia named, and why is it considered an appropriate Christmas plant?

8. Where was the scene of the agony of Jesus?

9. Where did Monet paint his famous water lilies?

10. The name of what flower is derived from the Greek word for 'testicle', which it resembles because of its double roots?

Answers:

1. Iris. 2. The daisy. 3. Because its name derives from a word influenced by *anemos*, the Greek word for 'wind'. 4. The shamrock, which was supposedly used by St Patrick to illustrate the Trinity because of its three leaves. 5. Because its original name was *pensee*, French for 'thought' which developed into 'pansy'. 6. It is not a flower at all but a rock, consisting of grains of sand fused together, the surface of which has been eroded by the elements so that it resembles a rose. Desert roses are commonly found in the Sahara. 7. Joel Roberts Poinsett, of Charleston, South Carolina, who after a mission to Mexico, brought the plant with the large flaming leaves back to the United States. Poinsettias are favoured at Christmas because the leaves generally stay red until Easter. 8. The Garden of Gethsemane, outside Jerusalem. 9. In his garden at Giverny, France. It is being restored by the generosity of the Lila Acheson Wallace Foundation. 10. Orchid, from *orchis*, testicle.

LITTLE Herman went to visit his Aunt Gert. He got off the bus at the last stop. But he still had a short walk to her house. It was very cold. And to keep warm, Herman pulled himself deeper inside his long furry coat.

And he pulled his big furry hat down over his face. He looked just like a bear which is funny, because that is exactly what a passing bear thought he looked like.

"You must be my Cousin Julius!" said the bear. Grabbing Herman by the hand, the bear ran with him to his cave.

"Look who I found at the edge of the woods!" he shouted.

All the bears ran over and kissed Herman hard and wet. "Cousin Julius, Cousin Julius!" they shouted.

"My name is Herman," said Herman. But no one even heard. They were so excited.

"I'm not a bear..." Herman said.

"Dinner is ready," Mama Bear called. "Take your places. Cousin Julius, you sit here."

When Mama Bear served the soup, all the bears lapped it up with their tongues.

But not Herman. He ate politely with a spoon that he happened to have in his pocket. And when the vegetables were served, Herman ate with a fork that he happened to have in his pocket.

The bears were amazed. "My, my!" Big Brown Bear stared at Herman. "How smart you are to learn a trick like that." And all the bears clapped, as if they were watching a circus act.

## Not THIS bear

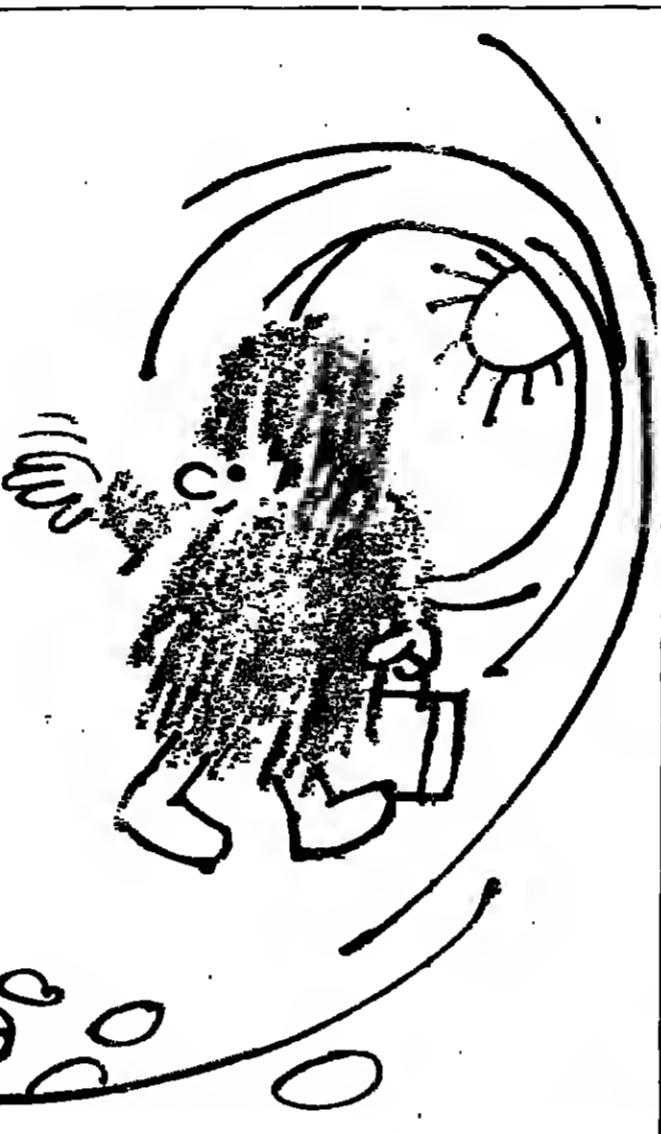
Poor Herman. He wasn't a bear. He was a little boy. He was sure of it. But the bears were just as sure that Herman was their Cousin Julius.

"So," thought Herman, "I'll just prove I'm really a boy!" He began to sing and dance and whistle; tie his shoelace and stand on his

head—all the things a boy knows how to do.

But whatever he did, the bears still thought Herman was a bear. And they clapped even harder at his tricks.

"See what happens," said Papa, "when a bear has a chance to go to the big city and learn a trade."



"What a clever cousin we have," said Big Brown Bear. And he yawned and went outside. Big Brown Bear looked at the sky and announced the time of year—winter.

"After Mama's big meal we won't have to eat again until spring," he said. And all the bears got ready to sleep.

"Remember, we sleep for at least two months," said Big Brown Bear.

"Two months?" said Herman. "I only sleep one night at a time. During the day I go out and play. I'm not sleeping through the winter!"

"But all bears do," said a baby bear.

"Not THIS bear," answered Herman. "I like winter," he said.

"He likes winter," said the bears, astonished.

"Yes, I like winter. I like to go sledding and to skate. I like to make snowmen and drink hot cocoa with whipped cream. I like snowball fights with my friends, and I like to make giant tracks in the snow. "And besides, I have to go to school."

When Herman finished speaking, there was a long silence. Then Big Brown Bear spoke. "Perhaps you aren't a bear after all. In fact, now that I look closer, you don't even have a nose like a bear."

"Look!" shouted a bear, removing Herman's furry hat and coat. "He's not a bear at all."

And there, shivering in the cave, stood little Herman.

"See I am a boy," he said.

Papa Bear roared with laughter. "That's the best trick of all. And the trick was on us."



Herman put on his furry hat and coat again. He said good-bye to all the bears.

"Come and visit us in spring," they yawned after him.

"I will," he was answered, just to be polite. And Herman began to walk toward Aunt Gert's house.

He was almost out of the woods when a big black

burly bear jumped out from behind a tree. Running toward Herman, the bear shouted, "Cousin Bernard..." But Herman ran just as fast as he could out of the woods.

Herman was glad when he finally reached Aunt Gert's porch. And Aunt Gert was very glad to see Herman.

## Germination

WHEN a seed starts to grow in a plant, we say it has germinated. Before a seed will germinate it must have three things. It must have water. It must have warmth. It must have oxygen from the air for breathing.

The water comes from rain. The rain soaks into the soil. The warmth comes from sunshine. Sunshine warms up the soil. The oxygen comes from the air which is trapped in little spaces between the pieces of soil.

If a seed has water and oxygen and is in warm soil, it will start to grow. A few seeds need to be in the dark before they will grow. But most seeds will grow in the light.

## Parts of a seed

Seeds are of all sizes and shapes. But all seeds are alike in two ways. Every seed contains a tiny plant called an embryo. All seeds contain some food that helps the embryo plant to start growing.

If you buy a packet of seeds from a shop, you will find that they are all hard and dry. The hard coat on the outside of the seed protects the embryo plant inside from harm.

If you look closely at the

## Science corner

seed you will find a little mark. This is a scar. The scar shows where the seed was joined to the inside of the fruit. On the hard seed coat you will also find a little hole. It is through this hole that moisture gets into the seed when it is planted.

**Roots**  
When a seed such as a broad bean is sown, the first thing that happens is that the seed swells. The seed swells as it takes in moisture. Then the embryo inside starts to

grow. The skin of the seed splits and a little white root appears. The root thrusts its way down through the soil.

To protect the root from being damaged, its tip is covered with a soft, moist cap which slips easily between the pieces of soil.

After a few days, tiny hairs grow out from the root. These tiny root hairs take in water. In the water is dissolved food called mineral salts. These come from the soil.



## Shoots

Next a white shoot pushes upwards. Soon, when it is above ground, the shoot grows green leaves. Until this time the seedling has not been able to make any food for itself. It is fed by the two thick 'seed leaves' which make up nearly all of the inside of the seed. These seed leaves are packed with food put there by the parent plant.

After a time, many new leaves and roots are formed. We now have a small plant. There is a little bud at the top of the plant. This will go on growing.



## Factfile FROM THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS

EX-USAIR CAPTAIN TEE KITTINGER BECAME THE FIRST MAN TO COMPLETE A SOLO TRANS-ATLANTIC CROSSING BY BALLOON, ACCOMPLISHED IN THE HELIUM-FILLED BALLOON "KODIAK" ON SEPTEMBER 14-15, 1984, KITTINGER LIFTED OFF FROM CARIBOU, MAINE AND COMPLETED THE 3,000-MILE APPROXIMATELY 2543 MILES (570 Km) BEFORE LANDING IN MONTECATINI, ITALY AFTER 65 HOURS.

Drawn by DICK MILLINGTON

RICHARD BRANSON (68) WITH HIS PILOT PER LINSTRAND (32) TOOK TO THE SKIES IN A HOT AIR BALLOON, THE "VIRGIN 2-3", FROM SUGARLOAF, MAINE, USA, TO LIMAVADY, N. IRELAND, A DISTANCE OF 5015 MILES (4497 Km). THEIR BALLOON WAS THE LARGEST EVER FLOWN.

Drawn by DICK MILLINGTON

MARTA KOCH (60) ON 6/3/85 IS JOINT WOMEN'S 200 METRES WORLD RECORD HOLDER WITH CORLEY MOSES (28). SHE HAS ACHIEVED 122 CONSECUTIVE WINS IN THE WOMEN'S 200 METRES HURDLES FROM 26/4/84 TO 1/1/85. SHE MET HER DEFEAT IN MADRID.

Drawn by DICK MILLINGTON

## Detective story

Why does the sergeant suspect the blonde girlfriend of murdering the playboy?

The playboy, Jules Ball, was killed by a jealous woman... a smoker, too, at that!

I believe that this cigarette butt belonged to the culprit!

Yes, I've been told that Jules was a non-smoker - ah, this must be his tape recorder!

The voice is heavily distorted... however I've managed to trace his last two girlfriends both of which smoke the same cigarette brand as the butt-end...!

I KNOW THAT YOU'RE ANOTHER WOMAN! I'LL MAKE YOU PAY DEARLY FOR THIS, JULES!

Here they are!

If the culprit really is one of them, then my guess is that it can only be the blonde!

## Search for a writer

Arnold	Conrad	James	Scott
Austen	Coward	Joyce	Sheridan
Bacon	Defoe	Keats	Sidney
Blake	Donne	Lear	Spenser
Bronte	Fielding	Marlowe	Swift
Browning	Goldsmith	Murdoch	Thomas
Buchan	Grahame	Orwell	Trollope
Bunyan	Graves	Osborne	Waugh
Burney	Greene	Pinter	Wilde
Chaucer	Hardy	Huxley	Woolf
Collins			

G C O N R A D W I L D E G K N Z  
C O B U C H A N L E S N E O W A  
H S L P O P E B F W I C C R A N  
A B A D X T U O I D Y A O E U F  
U O K Q S R E F L O B S W T G L  
C R E U N M T E J T M N E N H O  
E N A E U Y I N S I T I N I J O  
R E Y P M F A T R O L L O P E W  
A R N O L D A E H U X L E Y G E  
J R L A I E N M U R D O C H R T  
A O L R K N D A T T O C S E E N  
M O E B O R T H O M A S S V E O  
E H W D A L E A R B U N Y A N R  
S C R W E Y D R A H E S H W E B  
B R O W N I N G G P Y E N D I S  
F C D G R A V E S E W O L R A M

## Pipe of peace

Can you spot the three errors in the reflection of the top picture?



**Kuwait Knowledge.**  
Answers: 1) To protect the natural wells at Jahra. 2) Entertainment City officially opened on Kuwait National Day, 1984. 3) Jorn Utzon designed the famous Sydney Opera House. 4) It takes the Kuwait Towers revolving restaurant half an hour to complete one revolution. 5) HH the Amir began his rule in 1977. 6) Kuwait's coastline is about 160 km long. 7) Kuwait. 8) Saffron is added to tea to give chai zafrani its unique taste. 9) The Museum of Islamic Art houses the private collection of Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al Sabah and Sheikh Hussa Sabah Al Salem Al Sabah. 10) Alexander the Great named Failaka Island "Ikaros". 11) The national tree of Kuwait is the Palm Tree. 12) The complete name of Kuwait's zoo is the Omariya Zoo. 13) Al Sadu is the term used to describe the craft of weaving amongst the Bedouin of Arabia. 14) Doha Village.



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## No need for Opec pricing committee meeting, says Subroto

JAKARTA, Feb 29, (Reuters): Indonesian Energy Minister Subroto said today there was no immediate need for a special meeting of Opec's watchdog pricing committee, despite falling oil prices.

But members should resist pressure to offer discounts, he told reporters.

Asked if he supported calls to convene the monitoring panel set up after the last Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries meeting in December, Subroto said: "No, it's not necessary because we can contact each other through telephone and letters."

### Prices

Algeria, a member of the ministerial committee along with Nigeria, Venezuela, Saudi Arabia and Indonesia, has said a meeting should be held if spot oil prices remained at current depressed levels.

Crude-oil prices fell by about a dollar a barrel last week on the spot market, and some analysts expect a further slide.

Price quotes in Tokyo today were more than three dollars below the \$18 a barrel Opec target.

Some Tokyo traders said they expected Opec to call an emergency meeting to stop the market falling into a free fall.

But Subroto forecast prices would recover in the second half of the year, and possibly in the second quarter of 1988.

He said rumours of Opec over-production and discounting by some members had helped push down prices, but said Opec members should reduce output while maintaining official prices rather than discount.

"It's a sacrifice," he added.

Speaking after the signing of two exploration contracts, Subroto said oil prices had weakened because non-Opec countries have stepped up production, stocks remained high in the industrialised countries and the northern hemisphere winter was less severe than expected.

## Turkey launches first privatisation

ISTANBUL, Feb 29, (Reuters): Turkey launched its long-delayed first privatisation programme today, offering 22 percent of the profitable Telset A.S. telecommunications company for sale.

Bank clerks in Istanbul said there was a steady flow of applicants to buy shares at the nearly 5,000 outlets.

Prime Minister Turgut Ozal made privatisation of state companies a major target to promote competition and liberalise the economy in 1986, but brokers say elections, bureaucracy and market instability have held up the programme.

Officials from lead managers Turkiye Is Bankasi A.S said the 15.4 billion lira (\$13 million) sale would be heavily oversubscribed by the time the offer closes on March 4.

## Successful strategy planned

# Bahrain aluminium industry in top gear

THE greater degree of integration achieved in the Bahrain aluminium industry over the last few years, together with further regionalisation of the sales profile, has helped to leave the sector relatively uncoupled by the late 1987 falls in world aluminium prices and the prospect of lower world growth in 1988.

While certain parts of the island's industry — comprising primary, semi-manufactured and manufactured aluminium production and marketing — might face narrowing profits margins during 1988 after very good results during 1987, production will continue to rise, and expansion plans are not in doubt.

### Benefits

Indeed, Bahrain might be expected to gain overall from price developments that could force capacity cutbacks among higher-cost producers elsewhere, at the same time as forestalling any diversification away from aluminium to alternatives such as plastic, Economic & Financial Quarterly has said.

Long-term optimism is based on the undoubted comparative advantage afforded Bahrain primary aluminium production given access to cheap and abundant energy supplies, an ever-

## US economy shrugs off worst effects of crash

# Economists foresee no recession this year

WASHINGTON, Feb 29, (AP): The US economy has shrugged off the worst effects of the October stock market collapse and should be able to escape a recession this election year, economists for top US corporations predicted today.

The National Association of Business Economists said optimism among its members has risen appreciably since the last survey conducted in the month following the Oct 19 plunge in stock prices.

### Improvement

In November, more than half of the business economists were predicting a recession would begin before the end of 1988, an outlook that could have spelled bad news for Republicon hopes of holding onto the White House in November's presidential election.

Now, the number of economists expecting a recession this year has dropped to about one-fourth.

"As we move farther away

from October, we are a little less nervous. We are seeing continued improvement in manufacturing and other good signs that the expansion will keep going," said Kathleen Cooper, chief economist for Security Pacific National Bank of Los Angeles.

The next president is likely to face a recession soon after taking office, the analysts believe, with about 60 per cent of them picking 1989 as the most likely year the downturn will begin.

But for 1988, the economists are projecting further growth at a modest pace, stable interest rates and a slight drop in inflation.

The analysts predicted that the economy, as measured by the gross national product, will expand just 2 per cent this year, down from a 3.9 per cent GNP increase in 1987, when measured from the fourth quarter of 1986.

### Optimistic

President Ronald Reagan's administration holds a more optimistic view, predicting GNP growth this year of 2.4 per cent.

Ms Cooper, who compiled the

association's survey, said the decline in the stock market caused the majority of economists to reduce their growth forecasts for this year, but she said most of them had cut back their projections by less than 1 per cent.

### Growth

"Economists see the largest effect of the market's plunge on consumer spending for durable goods," she said, noting that they are now expecting car sales to total only 9.8 million units this year, down from an expectation of 10.5 million sales made before the market decline. The forecast of housing starts also was trimmed to 1.52 million units this year, compared to 1.62 million new houses built in 1987.

Ms Cooper said the analysts expect growth to be most sluggish in the first half of the year, as businesses cut back on production to reduce high inventories. GNP growth will average 1.5 per cent in the first six months and then improve to 2.5 per cent for the rest of the year.

the economists forecast.

This sluggish growth rate will not be enough to keep the unemployment rate from rising. The economists forecast that unemployment, which now stands at 5.8 per cent, will rise to 6.1 per cent by the end of the year.

But the slow growth will help to keep inflation from getting out of control. The analysts predicted that consumer prices will rise 4.2 per cent this year, slightly slower than the 4.4 per cent increase in 1987.

In other predictions, the econ-

omists said:

— interest rates, as measured by the prime lending rate, will stay steady. Banks cut their prime rate, used to set interest rates on a variety of corporate and consumer loans, to 8.5 per cent in early February, and analysts forecast it will remain at this level through the end of the year.

— The federal budget deficit, which fell to \$150.4 billion in 1987, will rise to \$157 billion in the current fiscal year, but then resume falling, dropping to \$140

billion by 1990. This is more pessimistic than the Reagan administration, which sees this year's deficit falling to \$146.7 billion and a further decline to \$104.2 billion by 1990.

### Deficit

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## World Business Summary

### Holmes A Court moves to amalgamate his firms

PERTH, Australia, Feb 29, (Reuters): Australian entrepreneur Robert Holmes A Court today unveiled a plan to merge his two major companies after clearing the decks two weeks ago with massive write-offs of stock market losses. His Bell Resources, with a fresh cash injection of 2.1 billion Australian dollars (\$1.5 billion), announced a takeover bid worth 686 million dollars (\$493 million) for its big brother, the Bell Group. Bell Resources said it would offer one of its shares plus one dollar (72 cents) cash for each Bell Group share, valuing each at 2.25 dollars (\$1.04), but a far cry from its pre-crash high last year of 11.30 dollars (\$8.12).

The bid was announced soon after Bell Resources received the 2.1 billion dollars cash injection today from Australia's largest company, Broken Hill Pty (BHP), under a deal in which Holmes A Court gave up his long-standing ambition of gaining control of BHP. Holmes A Court sold 19 per cent of BHP, or 300 million shares, back to BHP, reducing his holding to just 10 per cent. The October 19 stock market crash wiped millions of dollars of the investment held by his companies.

Bell Group and Bell Resources two weeks ago wrote off share losses of more than 900 million dollars (\$648 million).

Soon after the crash, Holmes A Court told shareholders he proposed a massive self-off of investments, now totalling nearly five billion dollars (\$3.6 billion), and that he would then reorganise the group.

Business magazines have continued to rate the South African-born Holmes A Court among Australia's richest men since the crash. His spokesmen have denied media and market speculation his companies were in trouble and said his post-crash selling was to build a "war chest". If the bid announced today succeeds, Holmes A Court's stake in the merged group will slide to about 25 per cent from the 43 per cent he now holds in his flagship, the Bell Group, his spokesman told reporters here. The Bell Group in turn owns about the same percentage of Bell Resources.

### London nickel stocks lowest since September '82

LONDON, Feb 29, (Reuters): Extreme tightness of world nickel supplies, which has sent the price soaring, was highlighted today by statistics showing nickel stocks in London Metal Exchange (LME) warehouses at their lowest since September 1982.

Stocks available at the LME, the major market, were down to 1,992 tonnes at the end of last week, lowest since mid-September 1982 when they were at 1,938 tonnes. In March 1982 they were at their record low level of 1,302 tonnes. A record \$15,000 a tonne was bid last week for nickel on the London market. Most traders agreed that exceptionally high nickel demand from the stainless steel industry in 1987 has led to current low stock levels, rather than any attempt to corner the market. Demand has shown no sign of abating this year.

This led to a run-down in world stocks with latest figures from the World Bureau of Metal Statistics showing total non-socialist world producer stocks at the end of December at 74,000 tonnes compared with 100,000 tonnes at the end of 1986.

Some traders believe the situation could be relieved if a major merchant which handles the bulk of Soviet supplies to Europe is able to divert uncommitted metal to the LME to get the exchange through its period of extreme tightness. But there is little prospect of any substantial quantity of Western world metal being available in the near future, they said.

Besides the Soviet Union, major producers include Canada, Australia and Cuba.

### Overseas investments likely to increase in Philippines

MANILA, Feb 29, (Xinhua): Foreign investments in the Philippines in 1988 is expected to grow some \$2 billion against the \$1 billion targeted by the government, Trade and Industry Secretary Jose Concepcion said today. "We don't want to be overly optimistic, but it seems that the rush is on and our growth is assured," he said. Japan is expected to contribute \$300 million in capital investments before the end of the year, Concepcion said.

Total investments from the United States and Europe are calculated to surpass \$600 million in the year. A survey released recently by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) estimated that at least 20 US firms in the country are expanding operations that will bring in \$381.85 million in new capital investments from newly industrialised countries and regions of Asia are also expected to increase. Singapore and Hong Kong are ready to invest \$50 million each in new industrial projects.

Foreign capital goes primarily to trade and industry sectors, particularly electronics, petrochemicals, toys, gifts, houseware, garments and footwear, according to the DTI statistics. The omnibus investments code of 1987 shores up the investment trend with a package of incentives including tax holidays that support export-oriented industries. Last year alone, firms in the industries availed themselves of \$151 million in tax exemptions on raw material imports.

### Italy's GDP growing

ROME, Feb 29, (Xinhua): Italy's gross domestic product increased by 2.8 per cent in 1987 which is higher than Western Europe's average of 2.5 per cent, according to figures recently released by the Central Institute of Statistics. The figure however fell short of the set target of three per cent. Industrial production in 1987 rose by 3.9 per cent, a record-high since 1984. Major increases were registered in machine-building, power generation, electronics, costume and car-making, the figures show. The boost to industrial production came primarily from a sturdy rise in domestic and private demands and measures taken since the second half of 1987 to spur external requirements. As a result, industrial exports and orders placed with Italian companies last November increased by 14.8 and 9.2 per cent respectively over the same month in the previous year. Italy's imports in 1987 increased by 8.5 per cent over the previous year to 161.587 trillion liras (some \$129 billion) while exports went up by 3.5 per cent to total 150.449 trillion liras (some \$120 billion). The gap between imports and exports was caused mainly by fuel imports. In international payments, Italy netted a surplus of 1.637 trillion liras (\$1.3 billion) in 1987, while the figures for the two previous years were in the red (2.965 trillion in 1986 and 8.352 trillion liras in 1985).

The fine performance of Italy's economy has boosted its national reserves to 74.313 trillion liras (\$59 billion) by the end of 1987 from the previous year's 61.411 trillion liras (\$48.8 billion) with exchangeable currencies standing at 20.248 trillion liras (\$16 billion).

### US firm wins 2 new clients

CHICAGO, February 29, The Leo Burnett Company has announced the addition of two new clients to its US roster: The Novell Corporation and The Amul Products Company. Novell assigned Burnett responsibility for its Clarion line of cosmetics, a new product line for the skin sensitive segment of the market introduced 18 months ago. The Chicago-based advertising agency competed for the assignment with four New York agencies, including the incumbent Lintas. Headquartered in Hunt Valley, Maryland, Novell is the number one manufacturer of mass-marketed cosmetics in the US with brand leaders like Cover Girl products and Noxzema medicated skin cream.

The Amul Products Company of Naperville, Illinois, a manufacturer and marketer of specialty and novelty confectionery products, has asked Burnett to work on special projects. The account was previously handled by DDB Needham. A wholly-owned associate company of the Wm. Wrigley Jr. Company, Amul markets such leading specialty bubble gum brands as Big League Chew and Tidal Wave.

## Drilling activity rebounds in North Sea

Motorola Inc of the US said it would invest in microchip-linked water fabrication, Avnet Inc of the US in satellite receivers and television equipment and Sanyo Electric Co Ltd of Japan in portable stereos, radios and cassettes.

The electronics industry has been projected to grow at seven to 12 per cent world-wide this year, Bertelson told Reuters.

World-wide sales of semiconductors, the key component in electronics products, are expected to grow from \$32.1 billion in 1987 to \$45.2 billion by 1990, he said.

Investment in electrical and electronic products, Malaysia's chief manufacturing export, rose sharply to \$231 million in 1987 from \$161 million the year

before, according to provisional figures from the Malaysian Industrial Development Authority (Mida).

### Surge

Malaysia's 16 US-based semiconductor firms plan to invest \$1.27 million in 1988 and \$29 million in 1989, Bertelson said.

A surge in the value of the Japanese yen and Taiwan's dollar has persuaded Japanese and Taiwanese entrepreneurs to invest in Malaysia or expand existing operations, according to Mardziah Aziz, Mida's director for electric and electronic industries.

"Many Japanese firms are coming to Malaysia. We find the wages reasonable and labour and

## Morocco, EEC clinch fishing and aid pacts

BRUSSELS, Feb 29, (Reuters): The European Economic Community and Morocco clinched key fishing and aid agreements on Thursday but Rabat said it was still looking for a response to its application to join the Community.

"You know Morocco has made an official request to join the Community and we're waiting for a gesture one way or another from that Community," Mohamed Sequal, secretary of state for relations with EEC, told a news conference.

**Treaty**

"I hope now this temporary problem (of the accords) has been solved, that gesture will be made," he added.

EEC officials welcomed the accords, which will give Morocco about \$735 million in aid over the next five years, as a sound base for future cooperation.

But the officials said nothing

about the membership application. The Community has already said that the EEC's founding treaty restricts membership to European states.

The new fishing agreement is vital to the livelihoods of thousands of Spanish and Portuguese fishermen excluded from their traditional fishing grounds off Morocco since bilateral pacts with Rabat expired at the end of last year.

The agreement, made necessary by Spain and Portugal's entry to the Community in 1986, opens fishing rights off Morocco to other member states as well.

EEC fisheries commissioner Antonio Cardoso E Cunha said Italy, France, West Germany and the Netherlands had all shown interest.

But the accord does not define the limits of Morocco's territorial waters, skirting the question of whether disputed seas off the Western Sahara belong to Rabat or not.

frequent delivery schedules and less inventory financing, and these are often enough to sway regional purchasers even if the actual price paid is at a slight premium to alternative imports.

## WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 1983

## LONDON

## LONDON

(ACTIONS STOCKS)

(GBE STOCKS)

NAME LAST CLOSE OPEN

ABBEY LFE	250.0	LEGAL+GEH	278.0	A.B. ELECT	370.0	370.0	370.0
ALD LTDNS	371.0	JAGUAR	337.0	AMT NEW	247.0	246.0	
ANSTRAD	55.34	LADBROKE	365.0	CANNON ST	270.0	271.0	
ARGYLL GP	190.0	LUCAS IND	628.0	CAP GROUP	204.0	206.0	
ASDA MFI	170.0	MAGNET	235.0	CALEDONIA	344.0	345.0	
A B FOODS	289.0	MARKS+SP	180.0	CALOR GRP	535.0	549.0	
BAA PP	100.0	MCKEELL C	248.0	CARADON	302.0	305.0	
BTR	266.0	METAL BOX	192.0	CARLON	160.0	161.0	
BAT INDNS	432.0	ALLD IR B	215.0	CARLESS C	103.0	102.0	
BARCLAYS	490.0	MEPC	467.0	CARLTON C	713.0	710.0	
BASS	810.0	KIDLAND BK	400.0	CATER ALL	340.0	340.0	
BEAZER	205.0	NEXT	274.0	CENTL ITV	554.0	545.0	
BECHAMS	458.0	HTH FOODS	270.0	CHATER CN	298.0	298.0	
BET ORD	243.0	P & O DFD	550.0	CHLORIDE	55.0	55.0	
BICC PLC	335.0	PEARL	443.0	CHRISTIES	515.0	515.0	
BLUE ARRW	102.0	PEASOR	672.0	CHAS, CHUR	107.0	108.0	
BLUE CIRC	438.0	PILKINGTON	229.0	U-CIFER	18.0	18.0	
BOC GP	391.0	ANGLIA TV	431.0	CHETON, BRK	490.0	491.0	
BOOTS CO	220.0	PLESSEY	162.0	CHICKEN	98.0	98.0	
BPE INDNS	281.0	PRUDENTIAL	833.0	CHIKI PET	116.0	113.0	
BR COMM	295.0	U-APC HOL	308.0	CHLICKET H	192.0	191.0	
BR AIRWAY	168.4	RACAL	220.0	CHLICKET H	253.0	254.0	
BR AEROS	352.0	APPLEYARD	370.0	CHLICKET H	292.0	294.0	
BR GAS PP	132.0	APRICOT	107.0	CHLICKET H	314.0	315.0	
B.P.	49.25	AVIS EUR	528.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
B.P. NEW	62.5	AVUS	314.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
BR TELCOM	245.0	BRUNSW	219.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
BRITOL	497.0	CAIRNS	143.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
BUNZL	170.0	ROLLS ROY	124.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
BURMAN OL	492.0	BSG INTL	67.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
BURTON	240.0	REDLAND	413.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
CABLE&WIR	343.0	ROYAL INS	405.4	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
CABDURYS	270.0	SAATCHI	418.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
COATS VIT	252.0	SAINTSBUR	219.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
COMM UNI	277.0	SCOT+NEW	245.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
CONS GOLD	780.0	SEARS	129.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
COOKSONS	550.0	SEDEGENICK	208.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
COURTAULD	313.0	SHELL	208.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
DALGETT	290.0	SMITH+HEPN	136.4	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
DEC CP	183.0	STD.CHART	493.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
DIXONS	184.4	STC	240.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
ENG CHINA	405.0	STORENSE	240.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
ENTER OIL	293.0	SUN ALLIA	893.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
FERRANTI	82.0	TARNAC	240.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
FISONS	255.0	TEATE&TLE	818.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
GEN ACCID	876.0	TESCO	153.4	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
GEN ELEC	154.0	THORN ENI	565.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
GLAXO	035.0	TRAF NSE	331.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
GRANADA	315.0	TSB	108.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
GLOBE	138.0	T + N	180.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
GRAND NET	464.0	TRUSTNSE	228.4	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
GUS A	075.0	ULTRAMAR	245.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
GUARD RTL	890.0	UNILEVER	505.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
GUN	318.0	UNIGATE	270.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
GUINNESS	293.0	BRENT CHE	132.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
HIMMERS A	538.0	BRETH WKR	334.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
HANSON	137.0	BRETH WKR	192.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
HAKER SID	402.0	BRETH WKR	282.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
HAMLEY	109.0	BRASSETS	66.4	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
HILLSDOWN	287.0	BR. LND CO	271.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	
BRASSETS	66.4	BR. VITA	433.0	CHLICKET H	36.0	36.0	

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-DR	PREV-YR
FT 30 ORD	1429.5	17.423.7	1433.9	1373.3
FT 500 SHR	0	1007.5	1007.5	957.6
FT ALL SHR	0	907.47	914.40	870.22
FT GOV SEC	0	90.03	90.01	88.49
FT GOLD MN	0	244.9	248.9	302.1
FT NINES F	0	418.00	417.41	450.65
FT OIL	0	1716.6	1750.0	1663.6
FT WLD DLR	0	123.55	123.12	115.04
FT WLD STG	0	103.81	102.97	90.79
FT WLD EQU	0	110.26	109.89	99.08

## World Indices

LONDON Stock Market Report	
U.K. EQUITIES MIXED TO LOWER IN LATE TRADING	
LONDON, FEB 29 - SHARES STOOD MIXED BUT WITH AN EASIER BIAS IN LATE TRADING AFTER A HIGHER OPENING ON WALL STREET AND FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF TODAY'S U.K. BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DATA LIFTED MANY PRICES FROM THEIR LIMS, DEALERS SAID.	
LONDON'S FINANCIAL MARKETS KEPT RELATIVELY CALM IN THE FACE OF NEWS THAT BRITAIN'S TRADE WAS IN THE RED BY A RECORD 1.51 BILLION STG IN JANUARY AND THAT THE CURRENT ACCOUNT DEFICIT WAS MUCH WIDER THAN EXPECTED AT 905 MIL STG IN THE SAME MONTH.	
YNE FTSE 100 SHARE INDEX AT 1530 GWT WAS DOWN 0.3 POINTS AT 1,766.2 AFTER DROPPING 12 POINTS TO 1,758.8 IN JUST 11 MINUTES AFTER THE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS FIGURES WERE RELEASED.	
THE EFFECT OF PRICES OF JANUARY'S HUGE CURRENT ACCOUNT GAP WAS OFFSET BY A DOWNWARD REVISION IN DECEMBER AND A STATEMENT BY THE TREASURY THAT THE DATA SHOULD BE TREATED WITH CAUTION.	
THE TREASURY SAID THE LARGE DROP IN RECORDED EXPORTS WAS A SIGN OF A FREAKISH ELEMENT IN THE DATA AND A TREASURY SPOKESMAN SAID HE DID NOT SEE TODAY'S NEWS AS EVIDENCE OF A SHARPLY DETERIORATING TREND IN BRITAIN'S BALANCE OF PAYMENTS. RANDALL GOLDSMITH, EQUITIES STRATEGIST AT JAMES CAPEL SAID, "ON THE FACE OF IT, THE FIGURES WERE A BIT OF A DISASTER BUT THE FEELING IS THEY WERE AN ABERRATION AND SHOULD NOT HAVE ANY LONG-TERM EFFECT ON STERLING OR INTEREST RATES."	

## London Gold

LONDON, FEB 29 - GOLD BULLION STARTED TO MOVE LOWER AGAIN TOWARDS THE CLOSE AFTER A SHORT-COVERING RALLY HAD LIFTED PRICES OFF A 10-MONTH LOW.	
GOLD ENDED THE DAY AT 424.90/425.40 DLRS AN OUNCE, WELL BELOW ITS PREVIOUS CLOSE OF 431.50/432.00. PRICES HAD FALLEN SHARPLY TO A LOW OF 422.75/423.25 DURING THE MORNING ON SELLING BY PRODUCERS AND NICOLE EASTERN OPERATORS.	
DEALERS SAID PROFIT-TAKING ON SHORT POSITIONS, MAINLY BY U.S. PROFESSIONAL, HELPED PRICES RALLY TO A HIGH OF 427.75/428.25. BUT GOLD NEVER LOOKED COMFORTABLE AT THAT LEVEL AND SOON BEGAN DRIFTING DOWN AGAIN.	
LONDON MONEY Market	
LONDON, FEB 29 - NEWS OF A RECORD 1.51 BILLION STG VISIBLE U.K. TRADE DEFICIT IN JANUARY JOLTED THE MONEY MARKET BUT LEFT RATES ONLY marginally higher as OPERATORS TOOK THE VIEW THAT BASE RATES WOULD NOT BE FORCED UP BEFORE THE MARCH 15 BUDGET, DEALERS SAID.	
THE TRADE DEFICIT, AND A MUCH WIDER THAN EXPECTED CURRENT ACCOUNT SHORTFALL OF 905 MIL STG, HAD A muted IMPACT ON U.K. FINANCIAL MARKETS AFTER THE TREASURY WARNED AGAINST READING TOO MUCH INTO WHAT MIGHT BE DISTORTED DATA.	
CRUCIALLY, STERLING RECOVERED TO TRADE BACK ABOVE 2.99 MARKS IN LATE AFTERNOON AND THIS HELPED CALM THE MONEY MARKET.	

Foreign Exchange	




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## International Bond High-lights

**Frankfurt**—Dresdner Bank AG's Dutch unit Dresdner Finance B.V. is issuing a two-tranche five-year bullet Eurobond for a total 500 mln marks, the bank said as lead manager. (RTWT 1034).

**Frankfurt**—The Coca Cola Co is issuing a 10-year 250 mln mark Eurobond, with a 5-3/4 pct coupon paid at 100-1/2, lead manager Schweizerische Bankverein (Deutschland) AG, the German unit of Swiss Bank Corp. (SBC) said. (RTWA 0936).

**London**—Credit National of France is issuing a 200 mln dir Eurobond due April 19, 1993 paying 6-1/4 percent priced at 101-1/2, lead manager Nomura International said. (RTZG 1437).

**London**—Austria is issuing a 125 mln ECU Eurobond due March 30, 1993 paying 7-3/8 pct and priced at 97-3/4 pct, lead manager Banque Paribas Capital Markets said. (RTUS)

**Tokyo**—Mitsui & Co Ltd will issue a 50 billion yen 15-year convertible bond and a 50 billion yen nine-year convertible through public placement with Nomura Securities Co Ltd as lead manager, a Mitsui spokesman said. (RTYI 1137).

**Tokyo**—Taiyo Kobo Bank Ltd plans to issue 50 billion yen in convertible bonds on the domestic market to help meet capital adequacy standards proposed by the Bank for International Settlements, a Taiyo Kobo spokesman said. (RTVG 0816).

## Interbank Rates

## Interest Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
1/1/16-9	9-1/16 8-15/16	9-7/16 11/16
3-10/20	3-20/30	3-30/40
7-3/16 1/4	7-1/4 3/8	7-7/16 11/16
1/8 3/8	1-1/8 1-3/8	1-1/2 1-5/8
3/30	6-1/8 1/4	6-1/8 1/4
10-10/12	10-3/4 11-1/4	10-7/8 11-3/8
3-5/8 3-3/4	3-7/8 4-0/0	3-15/16 4-1/16
3-5/8 3-3/4	3-8/10 9/15	3-7/10 8/12
6-6/8 6-31	6-12 6-25	6-37 6-50

FOLLOWING are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday.

Period Bid Offered

1 month 4-5/16 4-13/16

3 months 4-1/2 4-15/16

6 months 4-9/16 5-1/16

1 year 5-3/4 5-1/16

## BERMUDA

PR. CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	64	64	66	MICO	525	525	530	
ACC	146	146	146.50	GNFC	33.75	33	33.50	MUCAND	76.50	76	75.50
ASTA-PAINT	150	150	147.50	GSFC	102.50	103.50	101.50	OKRAT	20	23	22.50
BAJAJ-AUTO	395	403.25	396.25	HIND LEVER	68	67.50	69	PEICO	26.50	26.25	26.75
BAR-RAYON	155	155	155	HINDALCO	119	122	121.50	PFIZER	70	69	71
BRK-BOND	79	78	79	HINDCOCA	77.50	82.50	80	PRE-AUTO	25.25	27.25	26.25
BSE INDEX	406.83	404.18	404.18	IND ORG	18.75	19.25	18.75	RAYMOND	47	47	49
CENTURYSIG	665	670	670	INDRAYON	50	53.50	52	SIEMENS	67	67	68
DOLGATE	193.75	198.75	196.25	IMDROL	173.75	172.50	177.50	SPIC	32.25	32.50	32
DEPAKFER	29.50	30	30.50	ITC	32	31	31.50	STDMILLS	235	240	245
ESKAYEF	197.50	202.50	196.25	L A&T	81	79.50	82	TATACHEM	63.50	64	63
ESSAR	18	18.50	19	MAHINDRA	55	54	54	TELCO	362.50	365	355
GAR-POLY	78	81	79.50	MATERSHR	9.12	9.25	9.50	TISSCO	586.25	597.50	591.25
GE-SNIP	24.25	24.75	24.50	MATHER PL	--	--	--	VOLATAS	255	250	252.50

## FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST	PR-CLOSE	STOCK	LAST	PR-CLOSE	STOCK	LAST	PR-CLOSE	STOCK	LAST	PR-CLOSE
AEG	229.5	229.8	AIJINMOTO	3300	3330	HITSUB CP	1280	1300	AKAI ELEC	525	525
ALLIANZ VR	1361.0	1360.0	AKAI OPT	525	520	HITSUB EST	2210	2190	AKOI	638	627
BADENWERK	182.0	185.0	ASANI GAS	1900	1900	HITSUB HVY	788	785	ASAHICO	150	150
BASF	246.1	245.6	ASAHICO	590	576	HITSUKOSHI	1530	1540	BANK TOKYO	1580	1550
BAYER HYP	345.0	344.0	BRIDGESTON	1390	1410	HICHICON	1300	1330	BRIDGEON	1140	1140
BAYER-VER	339.0	338.0	CANON	1140	1140	HIRON CHNT	824	806	CASIO COMP.	1230	1220
BBC	303.0	295.0	CHUGAI MNG	1590	1710	HOKKO SEC	2070	2090	CHUGAI MNG	1590	1710
BHF	323.0	322.0	CITIZEN W	615	627	HIP ELEC	2030	2050	DAI-ICHI KAN	3240	3200
BHM	529.0	531.0	D-ICHI KAN	5240	3200	HIP STEEL	430	422	DAI NIP IK	797	778
CHEMIE-VER	0	120.0	DAI NIP PT	2600	2590	HIP YUSEN	584	581	DAI NIP PT	2600	2590
COMMERZB	232.5	232.7	DAI NIP SC	1000	1000	HIS MOTOR	850	830	DAI NIP TO	478	480
CONTI GUNN	235.25	225.0	DAI NIP TO	478	480	HOBRA CO	993	1000	DAICEL	800	803
DAIMER-BEN	688.5	688.0	DAIWA H	1810	1800	HOLY OIL	1210	1220	DAIWA H	1810	1800
DEUTS BANK	436.7	438.0	DAIWA SEC	2690	2700	HOMI SEC	2070	2090	DAIWA SEC	2690	2700
DLW	317.0	313.0	DAIWA SEC	841	837	HONDA SEC	1900	1900	DAIWA SEC	841	837
DRESDNER B	247.5	246.0	DAIWA SEC	2470	2490	HONDA SEC	1900	1900	DAIWA SEC	2470	2490
DYNAZOT	154.5	155.0	DAIWA SEC	1480	1490	HONDA SEC	1900	1900	DAIWA SEC	1480	1490
EWAG	43.5	43.51	DAIWA SEC	3460	3500	HONI SEC	1900	1900	DAIWA SEC	3460	3500
GOLDSCHEID	236.0	235.0	DAIWA SEC	4020	4050	HONI SEC	1900	1900	DAIWA SEC	4020	4050
GUTENOFF	0	0	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900	HONI SEC	1900	1900	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900
HARIBER	392.0	396.5	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900	HONI SEC	1900	1900	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900
HOEGH AST	256.2	255.0	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900	HONI SEC	1900	1900	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900
KOESTER	107.5	107.0	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900	HONI SEC	1900	1900	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900
KORTEN	173.5	175.0	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900	HONI SEC	1900	1900	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900
RUSSEL IND	431.5	430.0	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900	HONI SEC	1900	1900	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900
KALI-SALZ	138.0	142.0	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900	HONI SEC	1900	1900	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900
KARSTADT	412.5	410.0	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900	HONI SEC	1900	1900	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900
KRUEHOF	370.0	363.0	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900	HONI SEC	1900	1900	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900
KLOECK H	93.5	94.0	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900	HONI SEC	1900	1900	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900
KLOECK W	0	67.5	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900	HONI SEC	1900	1900	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900
LINDE	563.5	562.0	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900	HONI SEC	1900	1900	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900
LUFTWAFFE	143.0	142.0	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900	HONI SEC	1900	1900	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900
MANN	156.8	157.0	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900	HONI SEC	1900	1900	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900
MANNESMANN	121.0	121.0	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900	HONI SEC	1900	1900	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900
METALLGES	213.0	208.5	DAIWA SEC	1900	1900	H					

# Gold at 10-month low, dollar steady

LONDON, Feb 29. (Reuter): The price of gold fell sharply today, hitting its lowest in 10 months, on heavy selling from the Middle East, dealers said.

Some feared that bullion would fall further, some analysts said they saw signs of panic selling by mining companies which were worried that the value of their inventories was about to plummet.

"The market is now heading for \$400 an ounce," a trader with one of London's leading bullion firms said.

## Steady

The dollar meanwhile, held steady just below 1.69 West German marks and just above 128 yen, and share prices were mixed in the various world stock markets.

Wall Street's blue chip barometer, the Dow Jones industrial average, rose 12 points in the

first four of trading to 2,038. London shares were steady and Tokyo, the world's largest market, eased slightly.

Share prices fell today despite an afternoon rebound, snapping a 13-day winning streak that had pushed the main market index up by over 1,600 points, or nearly seven per cent.

"It had to come sometime, and it came today," said stock analyst Craig Chudler of Smith New Court Far East.

The key index lost 42.06 points, or 0.17 per cent, to close at 25,242.81. Brokers said there were no specific factors that sent the market down, but a technical correction was inevitable.

## Rise

It was the index's longest rise after a 14-session bull run from December 21, 1980, to January 11, 1981, which lifted it a total of 11,17 points, or 8.94 per cent.

## Petrochemicals vital for diversification of economy

IAGOS, Feb 29. (Opecna): The petrochemical operations of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) represented a milestone in the company's efforts to diversify the country's economy.

In a speech delivered in Kaduna, Nigerian Petroleum Resources Minister Alhaji Rilwan Lukman said: "What you see today in the section on petrochemicals represents the fruition of over one decade of efforts to establish a petrochemical industry for Nigeria."

## Coordinator

The address, read on the minister's behalf by Alhaji Sani Bello, sector coordinator of NNPC refineries, marked NNPC day at the 10th Kaduna international trade fair.

Lukman pointed out in the speech that the corporation had been working hard to produce raw materials for a variety of domestic industries.

Meanwhile, visitors to the NNPC pavilion at the fair were shown a complete range of the equipment used in the production of the country's oil and petroleum products.

## Cocoa nations meet on crisis in world market

LONDON, Feb 29. (Reuter): Cocoa producing and consumer nations began two weeks' talks today to try to agree on new price support measures in a surplus-burdened world market.

Initial discussions of the International Cocoa Organisation (Ico) executive committee focused on procedural matters, delegates said.

Later, sessions of the Ico council will consider crisis measures needed because the manager of the Ico's buffer stock has bought his full allocation of 250,000 tonnes — yet prices remain under pressure.

## Scheme

The Ico could implement a withholding scheme which would remove up to 120,000 tonnes from the market.

But consumers are keen to see a cut in the agreed price range, now 1,485 to 2,155 Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) \$2,020 to \$2,930 a tonne, which they and the producers would agree to defend and at which the buffer stock has been buying.

Consumers are also anxious to discover whether the buffer stock has enough money to maintain its 250,000-tonne stockpile and pay for the withholding scheme.

The largest producer, Ivory Coast, and Brazil, the second largest, together owe the buffer stock around \$36 million in Ico levies payments on cocoa exports.

## Pertamina to sign 2 production-sharing deals

JAKARTA, Feb 29. (Opecna): Pertamina, the Indonesian state oil company, is to sign two new production-sharing contracts today with the US company, Texaco Petroleum, and the Canadian firm, Canada NorthWest Land.

The two companies will then be entitled to launch hydrocarbon development programmes in East Java and Lampung, South Sumatra, respectively.

## Deals

The new deals will bring the total production-sharing agreements signed by Pertamina with foreign oil companies to 69.

Mines and Energy Minister Dr Subroto said at the weekend that the two contracts were the first of 10 to be signed this year.

He said two more contracts would be concluded in April, to be followed by another two shortly.

According to Subroto, 21 areas developed under production-sharing deals, were currently producing, while others were in exploratory stages.

brokers said.

Gold, which dropped about seven dollars an ounce from today's close in hectic early European trading, steadied by the afternoon, when its price was fixed at \$426.15 an ounce, \$4.30 below its Friday fixing.

Gregory Birch, a gold analyst at London brokers Kleinwort

Grievson, said he expected the price would keep sliding until, at between \$380 and \$400 an ounce, jewellers start buying gold again.

## Demand

For now, many dealers believe governments have got inflation pretty much under control. That cuts demand for gold, always popular with investors who fear rising prices will erode the value of their cash holdings.

Gold touched \$500 in late December but failed to stay at that level, despite the crash on the stock markets and worries about

the global economy that might have been expected to send investors fleeing to the safe haven of precious metals.

For now, investors prefer to put their money into things that give them a return — whether interest rates, as in bonds or bank deposits, or dividends, as the

## Rates

High interest rates, meanwhile, buoyed the pound sterling despite news of a much higher-than-expected British current account balance of payments deficit of £905 million for January.

The British shortfall, like the even larger US trade deficit, raises worries that people are spending more pounds, or dollars, than the rest of the world wants to own.

But in Britain, interest rates are much higher than in the

United States, and many investors feel its economic prospects are brighter.

The market likes the look of sterling," a London dealer said.

## Eased

London shares eased briefly on the trade news and then recovered, as by mid-afternoon, the benchmark FTSE 100-share

index ended slightly above

Friday's close of 1,766.5.

Frankfurt shares ended mixed, with the Boersen-Zeitung 30-share index up 0.82 points to close at 2,900.90. The Paris bourse indicator closed 0.6 per cent lower, while Milan's Mib index rose 2.07 per cent. In Zurich, the All-Share Swiss index slipped 1.9 points to 826.7.

Sydney's Main index rose 10.1 points to 1,251 while Hong Kong's Hang Seng index climbed 34.16 points to 2,418.08.

# Indian budget calls for higher defence spending

NEW DELHI, Feb 29. (Agencies): Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government today unveiled its 1988-89 budget, calling for large increases in defence spending and in outlays for farmers hard-hit by the nationwide drought.

Despite some tax increases, mainly in customs and excise duties, the federal deficit is projected to rise to Rs 74.8 billion (\$5.75 billion) from Rs 60.8 billion (\$4.7 billion) in the current year.

The increase in the deficit was expected to draw widespread criticism, as Gandhi had pledged last year to hold the 1987-88 deficit and subsequent red-ink tallies to less than Rs 60 billion (\$4.7 billion).

The government's fiscal year runs from April 1 to March 31.

Shortly after the budget was announced, Gandhi told reporters that "we have to increase productivity and control government spending." Yet he justified higher federal subsidies for food and fertiliser, saying that such payments were "standard practice" around the world.

## Criticised

Opposition party leaders criticised the proposed budget as inflationary.

K L Advani, president of the opposition Indian Peoples Party, charged that the government used drought problems as "a smokescreen to cover up financial mismanagement." Madhu Dandavate of the opposition Janata Party, who leads the

annual monsoon rains on which Indian agriculture is dependent, failed last year, reducing food production and driving many farmers from their land. Two-thirds of India's 800 million population works in agriculture.

The budget plan calls for increasing federal spending for agriculture and irrigation by 40 per cent in the upcoming fiscal year, Tiwari said.

Defence spending is projected to rise to Rs 130 billion (\$10 billion) from Rs 120 billion (\$9.2 billion) in the current year.

"Our armed forces, in the face of unwarranted provocations, have done a tremendous job of protecting our borders," Tiwari

said to applause from parliament. "We shall continue to provide them the required support in their efforts."

He apparently was referring to periodic clashes between Indian and Pakistani troops along disputed northern border.

He also is spending millions of rupees daily to maintain a peacekeeping force in neighbouring Sri Lanka to try to end the island's Tamil separatist rebellion.

The budget proposal calls for total spending of Rs 73.6 billion (\$56.6 billion) in the 1988-89 fiscal year, up 11 per cent from Rs 66.1 billion (\$50.9 billion) in the current year.

Tar and customs receipts are projected at Rs 660.8 billion (\$50.8 billion) in 1988-89, up 10 per cent from Rs 600.8 billion (\$46.2 billion) this year.

Revenue-raising measures include continuation of special "surcharges" on higher-income families and property owners and new customs and excise levies totalling Rs 4.23 billion (\$3.25 million).

It was harsher on consumer products, raising duties on cars above 1,000, raised from 250 to 30 per cent and the cost of colour television sets by Rs 250 (\$19) to Rs 2,000 (\$154).

The budget, however, softened its impact by extending toys, dolls, musical instruments and even pencil sharpeners on duty in one of the bitter moments of its presentation in parliament.

# Lloyd's marks its 300th anniversary

LONDON, Feb 29. (Reuter): Lloyds of London, now marking its 300th anniversary, has come a long way since the days when Edward Lloyd's coffee house first provided a congenial meeting place for merchants to exchange shipping news.

For one thing, the Lloyd's building is a towering futuristic structure of glass and steel, a sharp contrast to the smoky, intimate atmosphere of its birthplace.

For another, it has evolved from its informal origins to become the world's largest insurance market. In the last three years alone, underwriting capacity was doubled to exceed £1,000 million in 1988.

There is no exact record of when Edward Lloyd established his Tower Street Coffee House, which was situated a few hundred metres (yards) from the present building. But the earliest known reference to it is an advertisement in the London Gazette of February 18-21, 1688.

## Reputation

Lloyd himself took no part in the underwriting, but his coffee house gained a reputation for providing reliable shipping news and cosy surroundings for the exchange of gossip.

Today's 14-storey building is a high-tec mass of exposed stainless steel pipes, tubes and glass.

"Progress is vital for Lloyd's survival," Lloyd's historian Terry Atkins said. "It wouldn't exist now if it hadn't dampened all attempts to establish tradition."

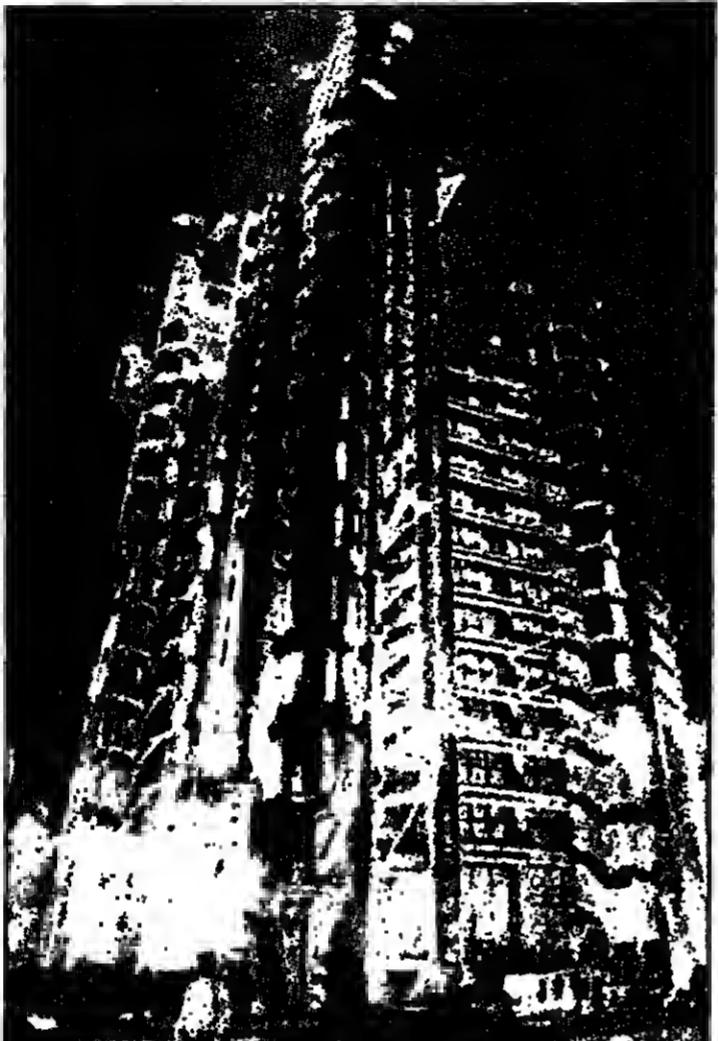
But while Lloyd's looks to the future, some relics of the old days remain: the Lutine Bell, salvaged from a frigate that sank in 1799, is sometimes still rung when the market receives important news, two strokes for good, one for bad.

Lost ships are still recorded with a quill pen in the huge loss book, which dates from Lloyd's move to room in the royal exchange in 1774.

## Risk

One of the most startling features of the new building is an elegant 18th century committee room on the 11th floor.

It was taken piece by piece from Bowood House in Wiltshire, Southern England, for the



A towering futuristic structure of glass and steel, the Lloyd's building stands illuminated in the night sky over London as Lloyd's mark their 300th anniversary. From early days as a coffee house providing a congenial meeting place for merchants to exchange shipping news, Lloyd's has evolved to become the world's largest insurance market. (Reuter wirephoto)

1928 Lloyd's building and then rebuilt in the present one.

Today, Lloyd's has a reputation for considering virtually any risk. Fleets of ships and aircraft, civil engineering projects, factories, oil rigs and refineries are insured there.

It has insured space satellites, polar explorations and film stars.

A whisky company once offered a £1 million prize to anyone who could capture the Loch Ness monster alive — and insured against anyone actually doing so.

But these bizarre deals make up only a tiny proportion of Lloyd's income of £33 million every working day.

Lloyd's is a society of underwriters whose members, all

private individuals, accept insurance business for their own personal profit or loss.

Atkins said he thought the shipping company P and O was probably the oldest Lloyd's policy holder.

You can't really trace where it all started. Underwriting has always been a purely individual agreement between insurer and client," Atkins said.

"It's a very short term, the underwriters' syndicate has a technical life of one year and there are very few records."

Lloyd's confidently predicts it will continue to expand.

Having outgrown three buildings within 50 years, one of the few briefs it gave the architect for the present building was that it should allow for further growth well into the 21st century.

## Design

The building was designed by Richard Rogers, co-architect of the Pompidou Centre in Paris. His design places air conditioning ducts, lift machinery and plumbing on the outside, providing the insurance underwriters with a startling exterior and a vast, highly flexible interior unimpeded by service equipment.

To complement these modern surroundings, computer screens are beginning to take the place of the old ledgers on the underwriting desks, known as boxes.

Lloyd's says most underwriting boxes are expected to be connected within three years to the London insurance market network, an electronic data exchange system set up in June 1987.

Atkins expects limited on-screen trading to come in during the next five years. "There won't be a big bang, because Lloyd's doesn't work like that. More like a series of little bangs," he said, referring to radical 1986 London Stock Market reforms, which introduced computer trading and were dubbed "Big Bang" by brokers.

To celebrate the anniversary, the Lloyd's headquarters in the City of London has been floodlit since mid-February.

Nearly 200 red, white, and blue lights and a bank of white searchlights illuminate it from dusk to midnight.

## Industrial Bank gives over KD 296m as financial facilities on easy terms

By Abdul Karim Kazem

INVESTMENTS of about KD 575.6 million have accumulated in the national non-oil conversion industries from early 1974 until the end of last year, according to the acting chairman of the Kuwait Industrial Bank (KIB) Abdul Salam Al Awadi.

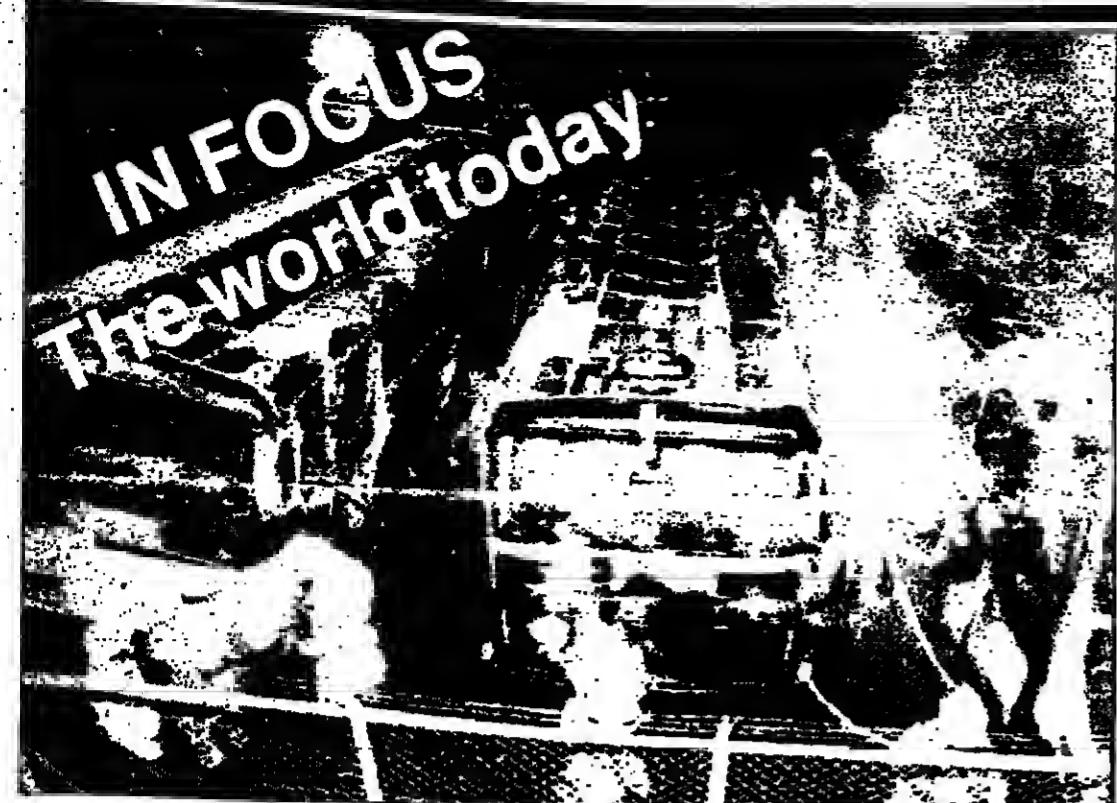
He said the KIB provided over KD 296 million of this amount as financial facilities on easy terms.

## Decision

He told Al Seyassah and Arab Times newspapers that the percentage of the total fixed capital of these industries compared to the gross national product was 22.5 per cent. He added that this percentage was very good and reflected the great attention the government has been paying to the industrial sector.

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Atkins expects limited on-screen trading to come in during the next five years. "There won't be a big bang, because Lloyd's doesn't work like that. More like a series of little bangs,"



**FIREMEN** examine smouldering airport shuttle buses which were destroyed by fire yesterday. Police said they suspect radicals who oppose a current expansion of Tokyo's Narita International Airport. No one was injured, police said. (Reuter wirephoto)



**REV. JESSE JACKSON** appears to be straightening Gary Hart's tie shortly before the start of a debate on Friday in Houston. (Reuter wirephoto)



**POLICE** carry part of the 70 kilos of pure cocaine seized yesterday by Madrid airport authorities. Police estimate the value of the haul to be \$12 million, the largest haul at a Spanish airport. (Reuter wirephoto)



**THE Duchess of York** is admired by a child who presented her with flowers following a service at St. Luke's Church in Long Beach, California. (Reuter wirephoto)



**WORKMEN** are reflected in a mirror while moving equipment at Nato headquarters in Brussels yesterday. Preparations are in full swing for the meeting between the leaders of the 16-member alliance on March 2 and 3. (Reuter wirephoto)



**A PANAMA CANAL** security officer talks on his radio on Sunday as a ship travelling to the Pacific enters a lock at the Miraflores Locks near Panama City. Panama Canal operations have remained normal during the last few days of political tension, but workers on the canal said a work slowdown is possible to protest against military strongman Manuel Antonio Noriega. (Reuter wirephoto)



**WORKERS** lay glass panels on one of the small pyramids, next to the big one in the background in the Louvre museum court yesterday. The pyramids project is about to be finished, and will be officially inaugurated by President Francois Mitterrand this week. (Reuter wirephoto)



**CUBAN** leader Fidel Castro (left) heads the honour guard for the casket containing the body of Flavio Bravo, the president of the Cuban Parliament, on Sunday in Havana. In the back are Rosa Elena Simon, president of the Academy of Sciences and Armando Hart, culture minister. (Reuter wirephoto)



**A MUNICH** car dealer frees his best offer from the snow early yesterday when heavy snowfall brought the winter to Bavaria's capital. (Reuter wirephoto)



**NEW DELHI** policemen guard jute bags which contain copies of the budget being unloaded at the parliament house. The copies were given to the Members of Parliament yesterday in New Delhi. (Reuter wirephoto)



**A MONK** at the Ganden Monastery near Lhasa, Tibet, prays to a photograph of the Dalai Lama on a temple altar on Saturday. Chinese efforts to blacken the image of the exiled Tibetan leader have failed to turn away worshippers. (Reuter wirephoto)



**NUNS** and thousands of faithful wait on a hill in Italy to see the Madonna on Sunday after a 'visionary' claimed the Madonna would make a supernatural sign appear in the sky. The so-called 'Miracle of Moteilvano' did not occur and an hour after the deadline for the supernatural event people left for home. (Reuter wirephoto)

# ARAB TIMES Classifieds

## ACCOMMODATION

### For Rent

MISHRIFF, deluxe, CAC, carpeted single storey villa comprising 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, living and dining area, large fitted kitchen outside building, beautiful garden, covered car park and telephone. Rent KD650. Tele. 5391720/5382783, 1-8 pm. (AT4-41169-3)

### Available

SHARQ, behind Sharq towers. One room to share with a bachelor, has built-in wardrobe and separate toilet facilities in a CAC apartment. Tele. Stanley. 2445789, 5.30-9 pm. (AT4-41202-3)

SALMIYA, close to Hawalli Passport Office, one room with water, electricity and kitchen facilities, for a couple or two ladies to share with a family. KD. 65. Tele. 2412923, 9-10 am. (AT4-41185-3)

SALMIYA, behind the Salmyia fire station. One big independent room with separate kitchen with water and electricity for a family to share with an Indian family. KD 60 only. Tele. Yipen Oberai, 4740801. (AT4-41183-3)

MISHRIFF, on the main road, Area 6. One floor of a villa, separate entrance, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and big dining room and fully fitted kitchen. Rent KD500. Tele. 5390562, 2-8 pm. (AT4-41181-3)

SALMIYA, furnished room for a single working girl or Indian/Pakistani bachelors. Tele 5634802. (AT4-41178-3)

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SOVIET UNION DOMINATE THE BIGGEST WINTER OLYMPICS

## Calgary Games close with a sparkling display

CALGARY, Alberta, Feb 29. (AP): Goodbye Calgary, Alberta, hello Albertville, France.

The biggest, most expensive and windiest Winter Olympics ended last night with fireworks, a sparkling high-tech display of lights and a follies-style ice show on the world's largest temporary rink.

Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee, declared an official end to the XV Olympics and invited the youth of the world to gather four years hence in the French town of Albertville for the 1992 games.

**Flag**

As tradition dictated, Mayor Ralph Klein of Calgary passed the flag of the 1952 Oslo Games to Mayor A. Dujol of Albertville, host of the 1992 Winter Olympics.

In the end, the fans packing McMahon stadium for the closing ceremony did not shout for Alberto Tomba, Katarina Witt or any of the other superstars of the XV Winter Games.

The chant was: "Eddie, Eddie."

In response, Eddie "the Eagle" Edwards, Britain's hapless and myopic ski jumper, sprang up in the stands and waved to the legion of fans he had won instead of medals.

While Edwards and Britain came away without Olympic honours, the Soviet Union and East Germany dominated the games, and the two east bloc sport giants together came away with 54 of the 138 medals awarded in 10 events.

Before the Olympic flame was extinguished, though, Dutch speed skater Yvonne Van Gennip and the Finnish ice hockey



Hippolyte Kempf of Switzerland races on his way to gold. (Reuter wirephoto)

team provided for some fireworks of their own during yesterday's final competitive events of the games.

Van Gennip became the Games' second triple gold medal winner by capturing the women's 5,000-metre speed skating marathon in world record time.

Finland secured the silver medal in ice hockey by whipping the nearly invincible Soviet gold medalists, 2-1 — a feat that Finnish coach Pentti Matikainen said "creates hockey history."

It was Finland's first hockey medal and only the Soviets' fifth loss, against 53 victories and two ties, since they began playing Olympic hockey in 1956. The

Switzerland, with 15 overall, finished third behind the Soviet Union and East Germany in the Calgary medal derby.

The Soviets set a new high in total Winter Game medals with 29 — two more than they had collected at Innsbruck in 1976. They had 11 gold, nine silver and nine bronze at Calgary. The second-place East Germans gobled up 25 — nine gold, 10 silver and six bronze.

**Summing up**

Calgary, which began a century ago as a frontier outpost of the Canadian mounted police, "has forever been changed because now we are a city of the world," said Mayor Klein in summing up the impact of the Games. The Games provided an \$800 million boost to help the city's recovery from the bust that followed the 1970s oil boom.

Nearly 3,000 coaches and athletes and 4,500 members of the media made Calgary for two weeks the greatest winter show in the world.

Now it's all over and a psychiatrist is warning of possible post-Games blues in this city of 640,000.

"Initially, there'll be relief that it's over. But then people will realise they're not going to be special any more. Many will suffer from psychic distress," said Dr. Patricia Pitsel, a Calgary therapist who specialises in sports psychology.

A snagged Canadian flag that refused to rise during the playing of "O Canada" at last night's closing ceremony seemed to symbolise Canadians' despondency over their failure to win any gold medals in the Games they staged.

Then there was the weather. The Games were plagued by

warm chinook winds that forced postponements of a dozen events, including the Nordic combined, which had to have both its jumping and cross-country portions jammed into the final day.

Frank King, chairman of the Calgary Organising Committee, alluded to the weather at the closing ceremony. The world's nations, he said, had been invited to come together in Calgary to "share our warm Western way of life."

"In fact," he quipped of the springlike weather, "it turned out to be warmer than we expected."

King went on to salute athletes who had set world records or achieved their personal bests at the just-ended games.

"And some of you," he added with a smile, "have even soared like an eagle."

That prompted the accolade for Eddie "the Eagle," whose style of ski jumping has been more aptly described as "ski dropping." The 24-year-old plunger from Cheltenham, England, became an instant celebrity at the Games even though he finished last in the two events he entered.

Among the other Olympians who made their marks through performance here were:

**Medals**

Matti Nykanen, the flying Finn, who won three gold medals in ski jumping, two more than any jumper had ever won at one game.

Raisa Smetanina, who won two cross-country medals for the Soviets, giving her nine spanning four games and tying her with Sixten Jernberg of Sweden for most medals ever by a Winter Olympic athlete.



Fireworks burst over the crowds in McMahon stadium during the closing ceremonies of the Winter Games. (Reuter wirephoto)

Vreni Schneider of Switzerland, who became the fifth woman to win two Alpine gold medals and the first since Hanni Wenzel of Lichtenstein in 1980.

Karin Kanja of East Germany, whose three medals here gave her a record eight speed-skating medals spanning three Olympics.

**Medal standings**

CALGARY, Alberta, Feb 29. (AP): Final medal tally of the Winter Olympics:

	G	S	B	T
Soviet Union	11	9	9	29
East Germany	9	10	6	25
Switzerland	5	5	5	15
Austria	3	4	2	10
West Germany	4	1	3	8
Finland	3	2	2	7
Netherlands	4	0	2	6
United States	2	1	3	6
Italy	2	1	2	5
Norway	0	3	2	5
Canada	0	2	3	5
Yugoslavia	0	2	1	3
Czechoslovakia	0	1	2	3
France	0	1	1	2
Japan	0	0	1	1
Liechtenstein	0	0	1	1



Switzerland's four-man bobsled team gets off in a running start. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Van Gennip wins third gold

CALGARY, Alberta, Feb 29. (AP): Yvonne Van Gennip of the Netherlands won the women's 5,000-metre speed skating race in world-record time yesterday and captured her third gold medal of the Winter Olympics.

Van Gennip skated the Olympic oval course in 7:14.13 to beat Andrea Ehrig of East Germany by nearly three seconds. Ehrig had to settle for the silver medal, and teammate Gabi Zange got the bronze.

**Most**

Van Gennip, 23, earlier won the 3,000 and 1,500 metres. Her three gold medals are the most by a female speed skater since Lydia Skoblikova of the Soviet Union won four golds at the 1964 games in Innsbruck, Austria.

"I was gold after I saw Ehrig's time. I thought I could beat it," Van Gennip said.

"Even if I hadn't won, I would have considered the Olympics a success with two gold medals. Now I can celebrate."

Ehrig went out and took 3.2 seconds off Van Gennip's 1987 world record of 7 minutes, 20.36 seconds by skating a 7:17.12 in the first pair.

**Lead**

But Van Gennip, skating in the fifth pair, took the lead away from Ehrig after 5 1/2 laps of the 12 1/2-lap race and maintained it. Ehrig embraced Van Gennip after the race.

Zange clocked a time of 7:21.61.

Making Van Gennip's feat all the more amazing is that she underwent surgery on her foot in December. She developed a foot ailment because she had been skating her skates too tightly.

Even after her victory in Saturday night's 1,500, she was a fresh skater yesterday. It was the first time in the Olympics that women



Dutch speed skater Yvonne Van Gennip races around the oval as she skates in a third gold. (Reuter wirephoto)

had skated a 5,000-metre race. But Van Gennip, full of confidence after her other two victories, was far from daunted.

"I was glad after I saw Ehrig's time. I thought I could beat it," said Van Gennip, who was embraced by Ehrig after the race.

Skating in the fifth pair, she took the lead after 5 1/2 laps of the 12 1/2-lap race and maintained it. She finished in 7:14.13 to the cheers of the large and highly vocal contingent of her countrymen.

East German Gabi Zange finished in 7:21.61 to take the

bronze.

"Even if I hadn't won, I would have considered the Olympics a success with two gold medals," Van Gennip said. "Now I can celebrate."

Ehrig's silver was her third of the Olympics, and Zange's bronze was her second.

The East Germans, who won nine of 12 women's speed skating medals and all four golds at Sarajevo in 1984, finished these games with one gold, five silvers and four bronzes. The fifth gold medal was won by American Bonnie Blair.

The Ford team could build up an early lead as most of the 10 special stages during the first leg are over tarmac where the Sierras are expected to shine.

## Dutch champions prepare for European Cup challenge

## PSV Eindhoven crush Volendam in League soccer

NETHERLANDS, Feb 29. (Reuters): Dutch champions PSV Eindhoven prepared in style for their European Cup challenge this week by crushing Volendam 6-1 yesterday to extend their unbeaten run to 23 matches since the start of the Dutch League season.

Wim Kieft hit a second-half hat-trick as PSV bounced back from a surprise 2-2 draw with Fortuna Sittard last week to stay eight points clear of nearest rivals Ajax Amsterdam, who beat ninth-placed FC Utrecht 1-0.

**Sounded**

PSV's form in particular sounded a warning for the rest of Europe of a Dutch soccer revival that harks back to the country's glory days of the 1970s.

The national side has reached the latter stages of the European championship for the first time since 1976 and Ajax won the Cup Winners' Cup last year to end 14 years in the wilderness after successive European Cup wins from 1971 to 1973.

Ajax have had their problems this season, including losing coach Johann Cruyff, but they hope to continue the Dutch resurgence when they face Young Boys Berne of Switzerland on

## Division.

Real were held to a 1-1 draw at Sevilla on Sunday but extended their lead in the Spanish First Division to six points. The Spaniards have a fully fit side to face Bayern on Wednesday.

Real Sociedad moved into second place behind Real by beating Valencia 2-1. Atletico Madrid slipped to third by losing 2-0 to Barcelona, for whom England striker Gary Lineker scored twice.

Benfica of Portugal and Anderlecht of Belgium, European Cup rivals on Wednesday, had disappointing results at the weekend.

Benfica ended a three-match winning streak, drawing 1-1 at Maritimo, and lie seven points behind First Division leaders Porto, who retained their unbeaten League record by beating Varzim 3-0 — thanks to a hat-trick by skipper Fernando Gomes.

Bayern Munich hammered out a warning to European Cup opponents Real Madrid by routing FC Homburg 6-0 on Saturday but failed to make ground on Werder Bremen who beat Bochum 1-0 to stay four points clear in the West German First

## Price Cobb wins Imsa Camel GT car race

MIAMI, Feb 29, (AP): The Grand Prix of Miami finally came down to one Porsche 962 racing two of the new, feared Jaguar XJR-9S.

Price Cobb, who co-drove the Porsche with Englishman James Weaver, held on to win the three-hour Imsa Camel GT event in the second closest finish in the 18 years the sports car series has been in existence.

"One way or another, we knew throughout the race that we were going to be in the hunt," said Cobb, who drove the final hour.

After a long caution period early in the last 60 minutes, caused by a crash, a blocked pit exit and some controversial scoring, Cobb found himself in the lead just ahead of the two Jaguars.

"I knew at that point that I only had two Jaguars to deal with," he said. "One spun and the other gave me a Heckscher run."

"This has to be a great car," said Cobb of the new Lancia Delta Integrale which will make its debut over the 2,100-km (1,300-mile) course, the third event in this year's world championship.

Finland's Hannu Mikkola, a three-time winner here, leads the Mazda challenge and other contenders include Swedes Ingvar Carlsson, also in a Mazda 323, and Stig Blomqvist in a Ford Sierra.

The rally opens with a special stage around the Estoril Formula One Autodrome before the 120 cars head north on the 682-km (423-mile) first leg to Povoa De Varzim.

The Ford team could build up an early lead as most of the 10 special stages during the first leg are over tarmac where the Sierras are expected to shine.

"Then he (Cobb) caught some slow cars and that made it close, but I didn't want to take too big chances at the end. At the end of

the season, the points will be important for the champion-

Cobb, from Evergreen, Colorado, was at the wheel of the Porsche prototype sports car for most of the last hour, driving a precise race on the narrow, concrete-lined downtown Miami street circuit.

Confusion reigned in the scores stand in the final hour after cars driven by Terry Visger and Jeff Andretti crashed near the pit road exit.

Several cars were held in the pits by race officials, apparently losing a lap during the caution flag. But after keeping the field clear in the race as much as 16 seconds, but the car, suffering from brake problems, slipped back into the field during the second hour and wound up a lap off the pace in sixth.

Nielsen moved right up to the rear of the Porsche several times in the last 10 minutes, but never quite caught the leader.

**Held up**

At the finish, Nielsen got held up by slow traffic and fell back, then Cobb was slowed by traffic near the end of the finish and beat the second-place car by just .004 of a second — about eight feet (2.4 metres).

The only closer finish in Imsa history came in 1976 at Lime Rock, Connecticut, when the Porsche Carrera of George Dyer beat the Chevrolet Monza of Michael Keyser by .001 of a second.

Five cars finished on the lead

lap and there were no official protests, although there were plenty of questions about the scoring.

Third place was awarded to the Porsche 962 of Italian Oscar Larrauri, followed by the Porsche 962 of defending Imsa GTP champion Chip Robinson and Englishman Derek Bell, and the 962 of West German Klaus Ludwig and Hans Stuck.

**Slipped back**

The pole-winning Nissan GTP, co-driven by defending champion Geoff Brabham of Australia and John Morton,

## SPORTS

## McNeil pips teenager

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., Feb 29, (Reuter): Top-seeded American Lori McNeil gave a lesson in finesse tennis to unseeded teenager Brenda Schultz of the Netherlands on the way to a 6-3 6-2 victory at the \$100,000 Oklahoma tournament yesterday.

McNeil, 24 and ranked 11th in the world, needed just 56 minutes to beat the 15-year-old Schultz, who upset third seed Rafaela Reggi of Italy in the semifinals.

McNeil mixed up her shots, often taking pace off the ball, and used drop shots with great success to keep the hard-hitting Schultz off balance.

"It's easy to hit pace with pace so I tried to take a little bit off the ball," McNeil said.

McNeil fell behind 2-0 in the first set but lost only six points in taking the next five games.

The second set was similar as Schultz, who turned professional just over a year ago, took a 2-1 lead, but managed to win just four more points in the match.

McNeil had reached the final here for three straight years, but this was her first Oklahoma title.

"Being in her first finale, she may have overhit a little bit," McNeil said of her less experienced opponent. "She's very powerful and very aggressive but sometimes she doesn't play the percentage shot. That will come in time."

Schultz, who practiced with McNeil at the US Open last year, agreed with the top seed's assessment.

"I wanted to just hit too hard," Schultz said. "Today I wanted to hit across from her and I couldn't. She was everywhere."

## Swede wins

METZ, France, Feb 29, (AP): Sweden's Jonas Svensson yesterday won the \$93,400 Lorraine Open tennis tournament, defeating the Netherlands' Michiel Schapers in two sets.

Svensson, seeded No. 1 here, beat Schapers 6-2, 6-4.

The week-long tournament counted for the Nabisco Grand Prix.

## Bridge

RESULTS of the SAS bridge club game played on Sunday  
N/S  
1st Lyn Edwards & Lollo Murthwaite  
2nd Cantilia Gougeon & Jasilia Akef  
3rd Donna Materny & Elly Lammerits  
E/W  
1st Helen Hughes & Jean Arban  
2nd Wadad Khuri & Nahla Khuri  
3rd Maundy Clarke & Diane Falk.

## Navratilova defeats Shriver to win title



Navratilova in action during the match. (Reuter wirephoto)

Given the opportunity to serve for the set, Navratilova used two passing shots, a service winner and an ace to win the game at love. She lost only three points on her serve in the entire set.

Shriver, ranked No. 4 and the tournament's second seed, threatened to get back into the

match by opening the second set by holding serve at love, then getting her only break of the match.

She then went up 40-0 in game 3, but ultimately lost the game when yet another second serve skipped off the very top of the net and landed out of play.

Navratilova then held at 15 before fighting off five game points to take a 5-0 lead. Shriver finished the game with two double faults, twice hitting second serves that tipped off the net and out of bounds.

Navratilova opened the match with a service break, then held at 30. She made it 3-0 by following a Shriver double fault with three brilliant passing shots.

Navratilova then held at 15 before fighting off five game points to take a 5-0 lead. Shriver finished the game with two double faults, twice hitting second serves that tipped off the net and out of bounds.

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The third place regular season finish resulted in Santa Fe being underrated for the playoffs tournament; the ASK coaches and Varsity teams both expected easy victories.

The major factor in Santa Fe's success this season was the

## ENGLAND FAIL TO CAPITALISE THE NEW BALL

## Greatbatch century gives New Zealand a draw

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Feb 29, (Reuter): New Zealand, aided by a century from Test debutant Mark Greatbatch and a docile pitch, today drew the way to a 6-3 6-2 victory at the \$100,000 Oklahoma tournament yesterday.

McNeil, 24 and ranked 11th in the world, needed just 56 minutes to beat the 15-year-old Schultz, who upset third seed Rafaela Reggi of Italy in the semifinals.

McNeil mixed up her shots, often taking pace off the ball, and used drop shots with great success to keep the hard-hitting Schultz off balance.

"It's easy to hit pace with pace so I tried to take a little bit off the ball," McNeil said.

McNeil fell behind 2-0 in the first set but lost only six points in taking the next five games.

The second set was similar as Schultz, who turned professional just over a year ago, took a 2-1 lead, but managed to win just four more points in the match.

McNeil had reached the final here for three straight years, but this was her first Oklahoma title.

"Being in her first finale, she may have overhit a little bit," McNeil said of her less experienced opponent. "She's very powerful and very aggressive but sometimes she doesn't play the percentage shot. That will come in time."

Schultz, who practiced with McNeil at the US Open last year, agreed with the top seed's assessment.

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fourth New Zealand to reach a century on his debut.

Most of his scoring strokes were in front of the wicket and many of them were drives of impeccable timing and classical style.

Although Greatbatch took six-and-a-half hours to compile his century, neither the pitch nor the situation allowed for fast scoring. He gave his only chance to John Embrey off David Capel when on 71.

Greatbatch received good support from Snedden, 20, John Brackwell, lbw to England captain Mike Gatting for 38, and Smith.

Snedden lasted until 30 minutes after lunch, by which time the match was safe for New Zealand.

Like Snedden, Bracewell had few problems with the England attack and this gave an indication of the gentle nature of the pitch and the lack of variety from the England bowling.

Off-spinner Embrey got very little turn and although he bowled accurately he rarely

looked as though he would break through.

It seemed Gatting miscalculated in his reading of the pitch and his selection of the twelfth man. His side lacked the sharper spin of Eddie Hemmings, and the England selectors must consider him for the Wellington Test starting on Thursday.

The New Zealand selectors later announced captain Jeff Crowe was being dropped for the third Test because of his lack of form in the final day.

**Scoreboard**

NEW ZEALAND first innings	301
ENGLAND first innings	323
NEW ZEALAND second innings	
T. Franklin b Dilley	62
J. Wright b Dilley	49
J. Cramb b Dilley	1
M. Crowe lbw Jarvis	26
M. Greatbatch not out	107
K. Rutherford b Embrey	2
K. Snedden c French b Capel	20
J. Bracewell lbw Gatting	38
1. Smith not out	23
Extras (h-8 lb-8 sub-6)	22
Total (for seven wickets)	350
Fall of wickets: 1-17 2-119 3-119	
4-150 5-153 6-232 7-296	
Bowling: Dilley 23-9-44-2, Jarvis 27-7-54-1, Rutherford 20-4-43-1 (4nb), Embrey 57-24-91-1 (2nb), Gatting 17-4-40-1, Fairbrother 2-9-9-0, Mexican 2-0-3-0.	

good form for England and New Zealand's Ewen Chatfield bowled as good a line and length as ever, but the other bowlers rarely looked threatening.

The scoring rate throughout the second Test rarely rose above two runs an over, and this, coupled with the dull weather, drew only small crowds with less than 1,000 spectators attending the final day.



Greatbatch on his way to 107 not out yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)

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Bowling: Dilley 23-9-44-2, Jarvis 27-7-54-1, Rutherford 20-4-43-1 (4nb), Embrey 57-24-91-1 (2nb), Gatting 17-4-40-1, Fairbrother 2-9-9-0, Mexican 2-0-3-0.	

Much of the blame for the drawn result must lie with the pitch. It played low and slow throughout and while it was relatively easy for batsmen to stay at the crease, it was never easy to force the score on.

In each of the three innings after the openers got their sides off to a good start, there was a middle-order collapse as the batsmen attempted to force the pace.

While the batting on both sides was mostly mediocre, the bowling was even more ordinary.

Graham Dilley continued his

## Captain Crowe dropped for third Test

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Feb 29, (Reuter): New Zealand cricket captain Jeff Crowe has been dropped for the third Test against England and is replaced by vice-captain John Wright.

The New Zealand selectors also announced the recall of left-arm spinner Stephen Boocock for the third Test starting on Thursday.

There had been speculation Boocock would be called up for the Auckland Test which ended today, but he told the selectors he only wanted to be considered for the final eleven. Although the selectors named 13 players, it therefore seems Boocock will play.

As well as dropping Jeff Crowe, the selectors left out medium-pacer Willie Watson and named Wellington opening batsman Robert Vance.

It appears Vance has been included in the side to cover for Andrew Jones who may not have fully recovered from a wrist injury he sustained in the first Test. He was not considered for the Auckland Test.

Wright, 33, has been vice-captain to three former captains, Crowe, Jeremy Coney and Geoff Howarth. However, he told reporters after his appointment that it has not been one of his great ambitions to become captain.

He said he was disappointed not to have been made captain on Geoff Howarth's retirement but it was no longer important to him.

Wright said that Crowe's lack of batting form was the reason for his sacking. "Jeff's had problems with his batting and that's been the deciding factor in the selectors' minds," he said.

Crowe had limited success in the first Test in Christchurch and then disappointed twice in Auckland with scores of 11 and one. West Indies won by 175 runs.

In Mildura: England 254 for eight innings closed (N Hussain 68, M Alleyne 40). International Cricket Conference (ICC) Associates 175 in 45.3 overs (T Penney 55, T De Leede 45). West Indies won by 79 runs.

In Barmera: Sri Lanka 151 in 48.3 overs (C Mendis 74), Pakistan 152 for three in 39.2 overs (Zahoor Elahi 71). Pakistan won by seven wickets.

In Berri: India 132 in 45.3 overs (N Mongia 46, B McFadyen four for 20). Australia 136 for three in 39.2 overs (S Law 72 not out). Australia won by seven wickets.

The chairman of the New Zealand Selection Panel, Don Neely, was not immediately available for comment.

New Zealand team for the third Test: John Wright (captain), Trevor Franklin, Robert Vance, Andrew Jones, Martin Crowe, Mark Greatbatch, Ken Rutherford, John Bracewell, Ian Smith, Martin Snedden, Stephen Boocock, Danny Morrison, Ewen Chatfield.

**Falcon advance**



Falcon advance

TWO matches were played on Friday at the Oval in the Al Mulla Mitsubishi League organised by the Unity Cricketers whereby Falcon scored a thumping 9 wicket victory over Union.

The other match between Capri and Deccan Green was undecided due to a protest lodged by the latter. The decision rests with the organising committee.

In the afternoon, Union batting first started with Nadeem and Abid who put on 23 in 4 overs.

The penetrative bowling of Muneer changed the situation completely as he dismissed both openers leaving Union on 36 for 2.

Mehmood (17) along with Shehzad (31) produced a fine partnership worth 49 runs when Mehbooh was bowled by Munir. At 69 for 5 Union were in real trouble. Sher Afzal accounted for Saleem and it was 69 for 6.